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POLISH ENVOY'S CRITICISM OF WEST'S MBFR PROPOSALS CITED

LD051201 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Feb 80 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "Talks Resumed"]

[Text] Vienna, 31 January--The talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe resumed today in Vienna's Hofburg Palace. The closed plenary session was addressed by Ambassador T. Strulak, head of the Polish delegation, and also Ambassador E. Molitor, Luxembourg's representative.

The 20th round of the Vienna talks is beginning in a particularly complex situation in Europe and throughout the world. This situation has arisen despite the intentions and desires of the Warsaw Pact states, T. Strulak declared in an interview with a TASS correspondent.

The Warsaw Pact states have recently repeatedly put forward initiatives aimed at decreasing military tension and achieving disarmament in Europe. These initiatives rang out particularly vividly in Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's 6 October speech in Berlin and also in the communiques of Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers Committee sessions.

However, disregarding the socialist countries' calls for specific steps in the disarmament sphere, the Brussels NATO Council session in December 1979 took the decision to produce and deploy in West Europe new American medium-range nuclear missile systems--something that creates a real threat to the European Continent's peoples and means a new spiral in the dangerous nuclear arms race. A considerable number of these missiles are to be deployed in the western part of the region of central Europe that is to be covered by the future agreement on reducing armed forces and armaments. NATO's decision runs counter to the consolidation of stability and the insuring of security and peace in Europe. The U.S. administration's recent decision to postpone indefinitely ratification of the SALT II treaty runs counter to the same tasks. This decision certainly results in a deterioration of the atmosphere at the Vienna talks.

Speaking at a press conference, T. Strulak criticized the Western proposals submitted at the end of the 19th round. He declared that the socialist countries cannot consider them in isolation from NATO's intensified militarist preparations. The very fact that the proposals were adopted by the NATO Council at the same time as the decision to produce new nuclear weapons and deploy them in Europe cannot fail to result in serious negative consequences.

Moreover, analysis of the substance of these proposals unfortunately fails to reveal any elements in them promoting or in any way bringing nearer the reaching of agreement. Rather the reverse. The Western proposals seriously complicate the talks in that they submit for discussion an exceedingly vast and tough system of monitoring measures, which, furthermore, go far beyond the bounds of the agreed reductions region.

The Western side's demand that agreement be simplified by excluding the issue of arms reduction and limitation effectively represents a ruse to cover the West's obstinate reluctance to reduce its own armaments.

The main way in which the West is deviating from its former position, the head of the Polish delegation declared, lies in the complete absence of any real commitment relating to future reductions and limitations of the armed forces of the West European countries participating directly in the talks.

USSR DELEGATION ARRIVES IN GENEVA FOR NUCLEAR TEST BAN TALKS

LD021505 Moscow TASS in English 1439 GMT 2 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Geneva, February 2, TASS--A USSR delegation arrived here today to participate in the talks between the USSR, the USA and Great Britain to work out the treaty on general and complete banning of nuclear weapon tests. The talks resume on February 4. The USSR delegation is led by chairman of the USSR State Committee on the Utilisation of Atomic Energy Andronik Petrosyants.

DISARMAMENT COMMITTEE SESSION OPENS IN GENEVA

LD051026 Moscow TASS in English 1016 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Geneva, February 5, TASS--The Disarmament Committee opened a session today in the Palace of Nations here. The members of the committee, representatives of 40 countries, have to discuss such a range of important questions as measures of nuclear disarmament, a general and complete ban on nuclear weapons tests, a ban on the manufacture of chemical weapons and the liquidation of their stockpiles, a ban on new types and systems of weapons of mass annihilation, a ban on radiological weapons, etc. The committee has before it constructive proposals, submitted by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries on all these questions.

USSR Representative's Comment

LD051929 Moscow TASS in English 1820 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Geneva, February 5, TASS--Speaking today at the session of the Disarmament Committee which opened here, representative of the Soviet Union Viktor Israelyan stressed that the Soviet Union regards the problem of curbing the arms race and achieving disarmament as central in the complex of problems facing mankind. Nothing can push the USSR from its consistent course towards detente and disarmament, the speaker said. He added that the Soviet delegation arrived in Geneva to continue negotiations on these questions started in recent years and also to facilitate starting negotiations on other important aspects of disarmament. The committee will examine constructive proposals tabled by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries aimed at stopping the nuclear arms race and banning other types of weapons of mass annihilation.

NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION CONFERENCE IN VIENNA CLOSES

LD041148 Moscow TASS in English 1127 GMT 4 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Vienna, February 4, TASS--An international conference on questions of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons that was convened by the American public organization Stanley Foundation ended here. Taking part in the conference were leading specialists on problems of preventing the spread of nuclear weapons from 14 countries, including the USSR, USA, Britain, France, Japan, FRG, India, as well as Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Sigvard Eklund. There was a broad exchange of opinions on the entire range of problems connected with the prevention of further spread of nuclear weapons in the eighties. It was noted unanimously that the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty is the most important political and legal document in the system of measures for ensuring nuclear weapons non-proliferation. The Stanley Foundation is preparing a report on the results of the conference and will send it to all states, to the United Nations organization, to the International Atomic Energy Agency and other international organizations.

PRAVDA REVIEWS CARTER FOREIGN POLICY, ELECTION CONCERNS

LD041503 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Feb 80 p 4 LD

[Nikolay Prozhogin untitled "International Review"]

[Text] Consistent Course

It has been exactly 3 weeks since Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's replies to the PRAVDA correspondent's questions were published. Fast-moving events confirm the analysis of the international situation they contained.

The working people's election meetings taking place in our country show the well-founded nature of the optimism with whch the Soviet people are looking into the future. Together with the successes in fulfilling the state plan for the USSR's economic and social development in 1979, this feeling of optimism is nourished by the foreign policy course of the Soviet state which combines consistent love of peace with the firm rebuttal of the forces of aggression. The imperialist and militarist circles will not succeed in destroying the prevailing equilibrium of forces in the international arena or in achieving military superiority.

The international aid rendered to the friendly Afghan people by the Soviet Union in full accordance with the Soviet-Afghan treaty and the UN Charter has wrecked the designs of the reaction aimed at stifling the revolution the Afghan people had carried out and at creating an imperialist military bridgehead on our country's southern border.

The slanderous fabrications of the cold war propagandists connected with events in Afghanistan and Iran are being exposed by life itself. The joint Soviet-Syrian communique on the results of the visit paid to Damascus by A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, published last week notes that "under cover of the artificially inflated ballyhoo around the events in Iran and Afghanistan, the imperialist circles and their accomplices are trying to distract the Arab peoples' attention from the struggle to liquidate the consequences of Israeli aggression, to split the ranks of the Arab and Muslim countries and to drive a wedge between them and their friends--the Soviet Union and the socialist community countries--and to undermine the unity and the principles of the nonalinement movement.

These are all vain attempts. There can be doubt that if some people in the Muslim countries are still sincerely mistaken, under the influence of imperialism's malicious propaganda, then the scales will soon fall from their eyes.

The peoples of the world can rest assured that the Soviet Union will continue to march in the vanguard of the struggle for peace and international security, for the ending of the arms race, and for the reinforcement and further development of detente.

Along the Path of Antidetente

Last week at a White House press conference, a question was asked about the deadlines for the implementation of the economic sanctions against Iran announced by President J. Carter. Addressing White House Press Secretary J. Powell, an ABC representative put the question as follows: "Can we believe what the President said or has he changed his opinion?"

As for the flagrant pressure on Iran which the United States is now hypocritically camouflaging with expatiations on the defense of the freedom of the peoples of the Persian Gulf countries against alleged Soviet expansion, then Bani-Sadr, the elected president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has stated: "Carter is not protecting the peoples of the gulf but the oil resources which the Americans are continuing to plunder. It is precisely this which Carter calls 'vitally important U.S. interests.'"

Let us not at this point go any further into the essence of the U.S.-Iranian conflict. The very form in which the ABC representative couched his question attracts attention. Washington's official policy has made so many zigzags that it is giving rise to a feeling of uncertainty even among those who are called on to insure its propaganda "back-up."

In this connection people both in the United States and in other countries are asking what really does explain the new aggressive course of U.S. policy. After all, the far-fetched nature of the pretext--the Afghan events--under which this seemingly sharp turn was effected is already becoming obvious to an increasingly large number of people. In addition the world has not forgotten another noisy propaganda campaign around the no less far-fetched "problem of the presence of the Soviet military brigade on Cuba."

The reply which is surfacing boils down to the presidential elections scheduled for this fall in the United States. The Rome newspaper PARSE SERA recalls A. Tocqueville's classic book on America which states in particular that "the period of the presidential elections in the United States is reminiscent of a period of national crisis during which the president governs not in the interests of the state but for the sake of his own reelection."

For his part Joe Crangle, the leader of Senator E. Kennedy's election campaign [as published], who should be an authority in this field, asserts that J. Carter's recent speech in Congress with its detailed account of Washington's new course "was aimed at attaining his political goals." He then explains that J. Carter "is regarded as a weak leader and he needs to be taken as a strong leader. He must constantly reiterate: 'I am tough, I am tough, I am tough.'" Hence the conclusion: "The only possibility for Carter to win at the elections lies in constantly maintaining a crisis."

While leaving specific assessments to the conscience of the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, which quotes them, we cannot fail to note that they look like illustrations of the manifestation of U.S. democracy noted by Tocqueville. However, if election considerations have indeed played a pernicious role in the elaboration of the [redacted] of the White House incumbent then [redacted] essential [redacted] of the real state of affairs behind this course. Obviously it is not just a case of the "hawks" gaining the upper hand over the "doves" in the President's [redacted] entourage. Far more important and dangerous is the fact that certain influential [redacted] succeeded in pushing the President onto the path of militarism and hegemonism.

Is this not borne out by the draft federal budget for fiscal 1981 recently submitted to Congress? Characterized by an unprecedented build-up of military expenditure, the draft provides for an overall "ceiling" of $161.8 billion for his expenditure, which is a over 5 percent more than in the present fiscal year. [paragraph continues]

On sending this document to Congress the President justified the militarization of the country's economy above all by reference to these same Afghan events. But knowledgeable people are exposing this fabrication. "We have been presented with a post-Afghan policy and a pre-Afghan budget," R. Perle, considered to be one of the leading experts on the administration's military programs, stated for instance.

Having felt the drop in its authority in the country, the present administration has seized upon the plans which had long been nurtured to militarize the American economy and wreck international detente. By fanning chauvinistic psychosis the administration is hoping to divert attention from its failures in the sphere of both domestic and foreign policy. The most sober-minded people are aware of the pernicious nature of these very attempts. Reflecting their opinion, the New York DAILY NEWS writes: "Beneath President Carter's elections campaign a delayed-action mine is ticking away--the country's grave economic problems, unchecked inflation and the approaching slump fraught with growing unemployment."

Valid Concern

The new course in Washington's policy is creating all the more concern in the ranks of U.S. allies as they themselves are being asked increasingly insistently to support it, not only verbally but also in practice. This means that a still greater burden of military expenditure is being heaped onto their shoulders and that they are being forced to virtually abandon participation in the process of easing international tension. Many of these states contributed to the formation of this process and sincerely wish to continue it.

Now not even the United States hides the fact that Washington had to put a massive pressure on its allies to make them accept the decision on the nuclear rearming of West Europe at the NATO Council's December session in Brussels. The Washington POST testifies: "American politicians realized that they could not expect the Europeans to follow their line automatically. They had to resort to a policy of arm twisting to enlist the support of the key NATO countries on the issue of modernizing missile forces in West Europe...."

The statesmen of West European countries who agreed to what is diffidently called "modernization of missile forces" accepted in the past the American thesis according to which nuclear rearmament supposedly becomes necessary for their defense after the conclusion of the SALT II treaty. Not the least "argument" in favor of adopting the decision to produce new American medium-range nuclear missiles designed for deployment in West Europe was the assertion that this decision would help to appease the American "hawks"--opponents of the SALT II treaty--and would enable President J. Carter to secure its ratification in the U.S. Senate. All this was also accompanied by profuse talk to the effect that a certain time must elapse between the adoption of the decision to produce new missiles and their actual deployment in West Europe and that during this time, having attained a position of strength, it will be easier to conduct disarmament talks with the Warsaw Pact states, so that the missiles themselves might not even be needed.

Thus some people in West Europe, by subscribing to the American plan which gives a new twist to the arms race spiral, attempted to pass themselves off almost as peacemakers in the eyes of the public. Now that President J. Carter has frozen indefinitely the Senate's consideration of the SALT II treaty, all these "arguments" have burst like soap bubbles, which is what they really were.

Those who reckoned that they would get away with deceiving the public feel very uncomfortable today also because in the eyes of their own countries' peoples they are seen to have been deceived, to say the least, by American politicians. Ratification of the SALT II treaty has been blocked but the decision on the new nuclear missiles remains in force.

U.S. allies also have good cause for concern on other problems of current policies connected with American pretensions to involve them in economic and other sanctions against the USSR.

Of course, it is no accident that a tempestuous debate is developing on all continents and increasingly determined protests are being made against the American administration's demand that the next Olympic games be boycotted, moved to another site, postponed or even canceled altogether. Both athletic circles and wider public circles in different countries express indignation that official government departments are interfering in issues which are the exclusive domain of the appropriate national Olympic organizations.

"So far all the main national Olympic committees have decided to participate in the games," W. Daume, chairman of the FRG National Olympic Committee, declared. He remarked not without irony that even if the Federal Government says that for it "the most important thing is devotion to our American allies in the spirit of the Niebelungs," at the same time it makes it clear that it "will not be offended if sportsmen still go" to Moscow. F.M. Carrasquilla, chairman of the Colombian National Olympic Committee, reasonably points out that the Olympic games were held regularly when the United States was waging an aggressive war against the peoples of Indochina. Athletics has always served and must continue to serve the cause of peace and friendship among peoples and not be used for the political purposes of the U.S. administration.

The peoples' fundamental interests are indissolubly linked with detente. Europeans were the first to know its beneficial results in their own experience and do not intend to cast its fruits at the feet of those who are prepared to trample them. Noteworthy among the many statements in this vein is an article by the prominent Spanish entrepreneur Juan Garrigues Walker published recently in the Madrid newspaper EL PAIS. In particular, he writes: "No one doubts that Spain belongs to the Western world. But there is a deep gulf between belonging to the Western world and obeying the wild demands of President Carter driven by the election campaign." It is also significant that in concluding his article the author cites the example of other states: "It is not despite but precisely because of the fact that Spain belongs to the Western world that it must improve and widely develop its relations with the Soviet Union in all spheres and at least raise them to the level at which Italy, France, Germany, Japan and many other developed countries maintain their relations with the USSR."

Such judgments--and there have been many of them over the past week--are all the more valid as people in the United States itself, despite chauvinistic intoxication, are very skeptical about the effectiveness of all sorts of "bans" being imposed on business contacts with the Soviet Union, fearing there that they will have a boomerang effect. "U.S. President Carter is playing a multibillion-dollar game with the fate of American farmers and the country's entire foreign trade," the newspaper FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU writes. The Chicago TRIBUNE should not be surprised that, as it states, "the NATO allies remain strongly disposed to detente and better relations with the Soviet Union and fear that the firmness (?) shown by Carter could plunge them into a new cold war."

SOVIET DELEGATE ADDRESSES UN ECONOMIC SOCIAL COUNCIL

LD060954 Moscow TASS in English 0816 GMT 6 Feb 80 LD

[Excerpts] New York, February 6, TASS--The organizing session of the U.N. Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), with a membership of 54 states, has opened here. The session is to discuss the program of one of the main bodies of the international community for 1980 and 1981. The draft includes 156 questions which cover the most important directions in activities of the United Nations in the socio-economic sphere.

Speaking at the session, Soviet representative E.N. Makeyev pointed to the complexity of the present economic and political situation in the world, when crisis phenomena in capitalist economy undermine the efforts of developing countries aimed at overcoming economic backwardness and attaining genuine economic independence. Meanwhile, the opponents of relaxation of international tension are now heading for escalation of the arms race, for carrying out a policy of blackmail and threats, gross violation of international treaties and agreements. The Soviet representative said that normalization of the international situation, practical steps in the sphere of real disarmament are of priority significance for accelerating social and economic progress of all countries, including developing countries.

The Soviet delegation believes that the ECOSOC's attention should be concentrated primarily on such important issues as consolidation of sovereignty over the natural resources, struggle against consequences of activities of transnational corporations, progressive transformations in the economy, consolidation of the state sector. As is shown by experience, solution of exactly these problems, said E.N. Makeyev, will enable developing countries to overcome in a brief historical period of time economic backwardness, to deal successfully with starvation and poverty and to attain real successes in economic, social and cultural development.

SMIRNOV SCORES ADMINISTRATION PRESSURE ON U.S. ATHLETES

LD021344 Moscow TASS in English 1332 GMT 2 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Paris, February 2, TASS--At a press conference here, Vitaliy Smirnov, vice president of the International Olympic Committee, first vice chairman of the Olympiad-80 Organizing Committee, dwelt on the progress of the preparation for the holding of the Moscow Olympiad. He pointed out that the construction of 78 sports facilities, a press centre, a new international air terminal, the Sheremetyevo-2, is nearing completion. Europe's biggest telephone exchange will allow one to rapidly get connected with any country. The new television center will telecast sports competitions on twenty colour television channels. Answering the question about the U.S. administration's calls for a boycott of the Olympic games, Smirnov said: "I hope for U.S. athletes' common sense. One needs to be sportsman to realize the amount of difficulties and training load whihc one has to go through in order to participate in an Olympiad--more often than not, once in a lifetime."

He described the pressure, which is being exerted on the U.S. team, as a gross interference in the affairs of sports. "The conditions in which the team is placed, Smirnov emphasized, have nothing in common with the Olympic movement principles who do not allow a political interference. Those who are calling for a boycott act so contrary to the Olympic Charter according to which only the IOC has the right to take decisions concerning the holding of Olympiads." The campaign launched by the USA concerns not only the Moscow Olympiad but also the destinies of the entire Olympic movement as a whole, Vitaliy Smirnov said. The summer games of 1980 must provide an answer to the question: Where is the Olympic movement going? Whether it will develop and grow stronger or lose its prestige?

LITERATURNAYA GAZETA EDITOR ASSAILS CARTER POLICIES IN LETTER

LD061228 Moscow World Service in English 1000 GMT 6 Feb 80 LD

[Text] The editor in chief of the weekly LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, Aleksandr Chakovskiy, has addressed an open letter to President Carter. The letter appears in the latest issue of the weekly. This is what it says:

Mr. President. First of all let us explain what has prompted this letter. The chief reason is a feeling of profound dissatisfaction and anxiety over the sharp turnabout in the policy of the U.S. Government and its possible undesirable consequences for world peace. Relations between our two countries have lately grown much worse. I refer not to problems that inevitably arise when two countries with entirely different societies develop relations, I refer, Mr President, to difficulties and obstacles that to my view have arisen because of various moves of yours that are hard to explain from the standpoint of commonsense. True, says Aleksandr Chakovskiy, there is another reason, too, for my writing this letter, a personal reason. In 1975, I was one of the Soviet pressmen who accompanied President Brezhnev on his tour of your country. The whole atmosphere of the visit, from the ceremonial gatherings before the White House to the friendly handshakes of Americans who welcomed our general secretary and president, gave me the feeling I was witnessing the birth of a new era in relations between our two countries. Like millions of other Soviet people, I realized a good beginning had been made but I understood it would take much effort on both sides before the clouds disappeared completely from the horizon.

I had no doubt that the Soviet Union would make this effort. The guarantee was the peace program adopted at the 24th congress of our party. After ex-President Ford's visit to Vladivostok, where very constructive understandings were reached, something went wrong but this fact did not yet worry me. Quite a few people who know the specific features of American politics must have realized this sprang in part from the beginning of an election campaign and a number of other transient factors. Then a new president entered the White House. A limited number of people knew you then, Mr President, as a statesman but those who tried to foresee your first moves could never have thought that you, as a person aware of the constructive developments between our two countries since 1972, would begin your period in the White House by demonstratively receiving the anti-Soviet criminal Bukovskiy. Now it became clear to all that in declaring yourself a champion of human rights in the Soviet Union you were really interested in but one right, the right to make propaganda hostile to our system and undermine socialism from inside.

You entered the White House, Aleksandr Chakovskiy goes on, at a time when relations between our two countries had clearly stabilized. Distrust had yielded place to mutually advantageous cooperation, and there seemed to be developing a barrier in the way of the mad arms race. You have an opportunity to slow down the race and mount a real battle with unemployment and inflation, and we had an opportunity to invest in further raising living standards; the money we had been forced to spend on national security. But you chose a different course, Mr President, and this is most evident today. You chose the course of rabid, hysterical anti-Sovietism with all the cold war attributes that go with this.

The editor in chief of the weekly LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, Aleksandr Chakovskiy, continues his open letter to President Carter in this way: Mr President, you have promised to phase down the unbridled arms race, but instead, however, you started a clamor about an alleged military threat from a country which as far back as 1948 proposed that all the great powers should cut their arms programs by a third.

When we withdraw some of our contingents and war material from the German Democratic Republic and propose to negotiate a cutback in the number of missiles deployed in the European part of the Soviet Union you retaliate by a decision to station hundreds of advanced American nuclear missiles in West European countries, members of NATO. You sign the SALT II treaty and in the same breath freeze it.

That is what has happened in my view, Aleksandr Chakovskiy remarks. Let us say bluntly, Mr President, you made no headway with so-called human rights, or to be more exact with attempts to teach socialist countries and other nations how they should live, while having in your home country millions of compatriots without any rights at all. And then you, Mr President, you opted for a changeabout. In place of the human rights your watchwords became a Soviet military threat.

So let us take a hard second look at what you term the Soviet military threat. Now what country back in 1946 proposed to conclude a convention outlawing the use of nuclear energy for military purposes? Who tabled a proposal on the total ban of nuclear weapons? Was it the United States or the Soviet Union? It was the Soviet Union. The United States did not support our initiatives. Again, who was it who proposed that the participants in the European Security Conference, and this means also the Soviet Union, should sign a treaty and make a pledge not to be the first to use against each other both nuclear and conventional weapons? It was the Soviet Union and its allies who suggested that commitment, and it was the United States and its allies who sidestepped the proposal.

Who made a proposal to ban the production of new weapons of mass annihilation? This proposal came from this country, the Soviet Union, and the Soviet Union it turns out is to blame, a country encircled by 386 U.S. war bases.

I am reading much about Harry S. Truman, since this is necessary for the novel I am working on about Potsdam and Helsinki. I know how much he desired to be the strong man and how much he staked on the atom bomb, and having dropped two atom bombs on the peaceful civilians of Japan he said somewhat later, the United States had become the world's strongest power and thus should assume world leadership. Maybe you recall these opinionated pronouncements, Mr President.

I am not inclined at all to remind you of what has happened to all those who aspired to world supremacy. History knows quite a few examples but no one has ever managed to accomplish his objectives. History has shown the nations do not like such aspirants and modern times bear this out too.

At this point we would like to remind you that you are listening to the text of an open letter addressed to President Carter by the editor-in-chief of the Soviet weekly LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, Aleksandr Chakovskiy.

Mr President, Aleksandr Chakovskiy goes on to say in his letter, now you are out to strangle Iran with a blockade, to bring it to its knees. Is it because of the hostages? Let me tell you bluntly, as a communist I do not approve terrorism and violation of the principle of diplomatic immunity. We communists believe that other methods should be used in political struggle. But let us be frank Mr President, the matter does not boil down to the hostages alone. The principal objective is this--to saddle Iran with a client government and to install the United States in that country again and to use its territory not only for anti-Soviet purposes, but also for the purposes of subjugating the mineral-rich Near and Middle East. Are you not playing with fire, Mr President?

Now your latest actions in connection with the Afghan events. A revolution took place in Afghanistan with Nur Mohammad Taraki becoming president, and immediately mercenaries started intruding into Afghan territory from Pakistan for subversion against the new revolutionary government. Those subversive elements were trained by American and Chinese officers, Mr President. The Afghan head, Nur Mohammad Taraki, repeatedly asked for our assistance, including military assistance. This was a year ago, and in subsequent months. We chose to refrain, but cautioned Pakistan and discussed the issue with your diplomats. It is now a matter of common knowledge that Hafizollah Amin was linked with American intelligence services, this is an open secret now Mr President. Amin staged a coup and ordered the killing of President Taraki. The names of the killers have now been made public.

The Afghan people toppled Amin. The new president of Afghanistan is Babrak Karmal, a close associate of Taraki and his former deputy. Counterrevolutionary elements and the forces of aggression thought it was an opportune moment for acting and they stepped up their efforts, banking on chaos and disarray. Afghanistan asked us for assistance since in actual fact Washington and Beijing had started an undeclared war against that country. We could not leave that appeal unheeded, come as it did from a country to which we were committed by a friendship and cooperation treaty and whose independence and very existence were threatened. Not to heed that appeal would have meant to query Afghanistan's right to individual and collective self-defense. And, finally, we could not neglect our own national security in the light of those developments because Afghanistan is not a far away country but our neighbor, with whom we have a common border. And if you are making use of the Afghan events to fan anti-Soviet hysteria the only explanation is that the militarist quarters of the United States have failed to find a suitable cover up for boosting American arms programs. For the sake of those programs you freeze SALT II, break off commercial, scientific and cultural ties with us and offer a boycott of the Moscow Olympics.

Lastly, you impose an embargo on the grain sales. From the other side of the ocean prophesies are being made, without American wheat and corn we are in for famine, loss of livestock and other deprivations. Now this issue has two facets, a factual and moral. As to the factual side of the matter, our president has already made it clear by stating this: The cynical estimates about the worsening of the food situation as the result of the United States refusal to sell us grain are premised on the wrong headed appraisal of our economic potential. So said our President Leonid Brezhnev. But here I would like to mention the other moral aspect. Any attempt, even if abortive, to organize famine in another country and in this way to make it knuckle under are both dirty and shameful indeed. We shall not counter anti-Soviet hysteria with anti-American hysteria.

Now Mr President may I ask you this question: What kind of policy do you intend to conduct in the future, the policy of blackmail and threats, the policy of suppressing the national liberation movements; and do you intend to continue to stake on the Chinese card and to make lavish promises to the Chinese militarists to arm them against us in a naive certainty that Chinese guns and missiles will be targeted in one direction only?

I have read your report and the accompanying letter to the U.S. Congress. You write: I have ordered, I have instructed, I have canceled, I have banned, and all this concerns my country Mr President. I have also read the foreign policy section of your State of the Union Message. It is permeated with slanderous innuendoes against the Soviet Union.

You call for arming so as to secure America's leadership in the world. Now how do you visualize that leadership? In foisting your laws on other nations or in the arms race? No independent nation would stand idly by as your nuclear missiles targeted on it are becoming ever more formidable. That nation will see to its security, and where the Soviet Union is concerned there should be no room for doubt on this score, Mr President.

So what now, Mr President? As far as the Soviet Union's policy is concerned, President Brezhnev has outlined it in clearcut terms. This course couples consistent peace policies with a firm determination to rebuff aggression. It has proven itself over the past decades and we intend to adhere to it in the future. No one shall take us from that course.

But what about you Mr President, what are your objectives, do you intend to take the nations back to the cold war times? If so I am deeply convinced such an intention has nothing in common with the interests of our two nations and the whole world. Commonsense makes us hope that your approach to world developments and U.S.-Soviet relations is bound to change sooner or later. This would be in the interests of the American people too, and would insure in deeds, not in words, peace, equality and international amity.

We have read you the text of an open letter addressed by Aleksandr Chakovskiy, editor in chief of the Soviet weekly LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, to President Carter.

REPORT OF U.S. TEHRAN DIPLOMAT'S ALLEGED CIA LINK

LD051025 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Jan 80 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Correspondent A. Grigoryants dispatch under the rubric "Secrets of the Secret Services": "Cooperation of Scorpions"]

[Text] Bonn--At the beginning of last July the American Embassy in Tehran presented its new official, Second Secretary George (O'Kifi), to the Iranian Foreign Ministry.

Having introduced himself, the diplomat with passport No (KH)-140786 embarked on his work. Its nature became known in less than 6 months. After the occupation of the American Embassy in Tehran by Iranian students, documents were discovered in its safes confirming that (O'Kifi) was U.S. CIA agent.

It is interesting that (O'Kifi) was found in possession of an...FRG citizen's passport, a driver's license issued in Hamburg and an international license made out in Hannover. The American agent was operating under the name of FRG citizen Josef Marcus Schneider.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry demanded explanations from Bonn. Indeed, how did the CIA agent come to possess not only documents issued by FRG authorities but also a rubber stamp and detailed instructions as to when and how he could renew his own visa to stay in Iran, in accordance with the regulations set down specifically for FRG citizens?

This question caused annoyance and confusion in West German special services headquarters. And with good reason! The unseemly practice of Western intelligence organs, which act together to supply each other with counterfeit documents and conceal mutually scandalous affairs, had been exposed. Such cooperation is particularly widely practiced in subversive actions against socialist states, the weekly DER STERN writes, relating the (O'Kifi) story. But on this occasion the Americans broke the rules of the game and "abused" the services of their West German colleagues by involving them in the secret war against revolutionary Iran.

PAPER NOTES 'PERSECUTION' OF IRANIANS IN UNITED STATES

LD041651 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 29 January 1980 publishes on page 3 a 700-word article by A. Astokhov entitled "Humanism American-Style," describing a "campaign of overt intimidation and systematic persecution of Iranians in the United States," including acts of physical violence and the desecration of mosques. Astakhov states in conclusion:

"In the light of these and other anti-Iranian and anti-Muslim actions, there is a hypocritical look to recent statements by representatives of the U.S. administration who, without embarrassment, are thrusting themselves forward as protectors of Islam and declaring their desire to uphold the interests of peoples professing Islam. Truly, the cynicism of some U.S. politicians knows no bounds!"

MAGAZINE ADVERTISING FOR ANTI-AFGHANISTAN GUERRILLAS HIT

LD052136 Moscow TASS in English 2005 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD

[Text] New York, February 5 TASS--A campaign of recruiting mercenaries for participation in aggressive actions against Democratic Afghanistan is being conducted in the United States with a connivance of the official authorities.

The search for cutthroats for armed units which are being set up on American money and are smuggled from the Pakistani territory to Afghanistan is handled by the notorious magazine SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, which has earlier specialised on recruiting mercenaries for punitive operations against the Zimbabwe patriots.

The magazine published as advertisement in its most recent issue an interview with a leader of the terrorist gangs which are smuggled into the Afghan territory. Boston-educated Zia Nassry who has repeatedly visited the United States to strike deals on financial aid and arms deliveries to the imperialist hirelings, appeals in the magazine to the rabble who are ready to take part for dollars in the subversive operations against Afghanistan.

His remarks made it clear that a recruiting network has been set up in the United States. Nassry assures that he can give name in Washington for contact to make necessary arrangements for moving into the region of the Afghan borders.

Political observers draw attention to the fact that the activities of the magazine SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, which is picking up hirelings for another interventionist adventure of imperialism are in crying contradiction with U.S. laws banning such recruitment on American territory. Nevertheless, SOLDIER OF FORTUNE is carrying out its recruiting operations practically unhindered. There is nothing to wonder about since it is the U.S. administration which is participating is [as received] arming and training of the terrorist gangs which intrude into the Afghan territory.

CLAIM TO PARACEL, SPRATLY ISLANDS SHOWS EXPANSIONIST PLANS

LD051230 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2130 GMT 4 Feb 80 LD

[Vladimir Korolev commentary]

[Text] The Chinese XINHUA agency has put out a so-called PRC Foreign Ministry document in which Beijing asserts that the Paracel Islands and the Spratly Archipelago belong to China. Vietnam has categorically rejected these claims by Beijing, declaring that the Paracel Islands, Vietnamese name Truong Sa, and the Spratly Archipelago, Hoang Sa, are Vietnamese territory and that the fact that they belong to Vietnam is incontrovertible.

These claims by Beijing to the Paracel Islands and Spratly Archipelago are not being put forward for the first time. As far as the Paracel Islands are concerned, Beijing went so far as to use direct military force, seizing them by a landing operation supported by aircraft in 1974. The Chinese leadership has long pursued a course of expansion in Southeast Asia, that large and strategically important region. We must without fail acquire Southeast Asia with its resources, said Mao Zedong; his successors, to all appearances, intend to carry out this behest of their helmsman. Beijing is pursuing a hegemonist predatory policy not only against Vietnam but also against Laos, Kampuchea, Burma, India and other states in the region. Beijing has now proclaimed the extension of its sovereignty to the Paracel Islands and the Spratly Archipelago in the South China Sea. But Maoist propaganda calls for the return to the lap of the motherland of a further 200 or more islands, reefs and shallows in the same sea, which have never belonged to China. It is noteworthy that the military and diplomatic offensive in the South China Sea has begun by Beijing when it became known that there were great reserves of oil in the area of these islands.

On maps which have appeared in Beijing now, one may see marked as Chinese territory in practically all the neighboring states. The area of the lost lands, as the Maoists call many territories in Asia, totals the vast sum of 10.5 million square kilometers, more than China's own territory. One may recall how Mao Zedong in the mid-sixties put forward his great list on the territorial question. Talking to a group of Japanese specialists, Mao spoke of Chinese claims to a considerable area of Soviet territory. He then spoke of his intention to incorporate the Mongolian People's Republic in China.

The claims of the Chinese authorities to the territory of others are a sign of the aggressive expansionist course being pursued by Beijing in the international field.

FURTHER REPORT ON DPRK, SO KOREAN MEETING

LD052228 Moscow World Service in English 1600 GMT 30 Jan 80 LD

[Text] The Democratic People's Republic of Korea will send its official representatives to Panmunjom on February 6th for talks with a South Korean delegation. This has been reported by Pyongyang's news agency. The delegations are to prepare for the first meeting between the prime ministers of the two countries.

DPRK SAYS SOUTH KOREA UNWILLING FOR DIALOG, REUNIFICATION

LD051840 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD

[Text] The People's Democratic Republic of Korea accused the Seoul regime of unwillingness to carry out a dialog on reunification. The central Pyongyang daily, NODONG SINMUN, wrote today that South Korea staged provocative military exercises close to the border of the People's Democratic Republic. The exercises, said the Pyongyang newspaper, were a clear proof showing that South Koreans dislike reunification and any dialog and pursue confrontation and division. The editorial appeared one day before delegations from north and south were due to meet at the border armistice village of Panmunjom to arrange a meeting between the two premiers.

PREPARATIONS FOR REUNIFICATION SUMMIT TALKS BEGIN

LD061124 Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 6 Feb 80 LD

[Text] The working group of representatives of North and South Korea have met at Panmunjom in the Demilitarized Zone. The two sides discussed preparations for a dialog at prime minister level. The prime ministers are to consider ways of reuniting Korea on a peaceful and democratic basis. The need for such a reunification has been repeatedly stressed by the Korean People's Democratic Republic. Agreement has been reached to hold another meeting of the working group on February 19.

JAPANESE PARTICIPATION IN WORLDWIDE U.S. STRATEGY CITED

LD051541 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Feb 80 p 5 LD

[Correspondent Yu. Vdovin dispatch: "Public Alarmed: Japan's Participation in the Pentagon's Plans"]

[Text] Tokyo, 31 January--The Japanese Government's readiness to join still more actively in Washington's hegemonist policy is causing the country's public serious concern.

The American bases in Japan are already extensively used to fuel tension in various regions of the world. Maneuvers are being held on Okinawa to rehearse operations by subunits of the interventionist "quick-reaction corps." About 4,000 marines, who, according to U.S. Defense Secretary Brown, are to be the backbone of the "corps," have been transferred from that island to South Korea. The exercises they are holding practice "operations in harsh climatic conditions." The aircraft carrier Midway and other warships of the U.S. 7th Fleet, whose permanent base in Yokosuka, are plying the waters of the Persian Gulf. A Japanese naval detachment that is to participate in the large-scale "Pacific ring" maneuvers held under U.S. command has set sail from Yokosuka for Hawaii.

Judging by Brown's statement and the remarks of Japanese Government spokesmen in parliament, Japan will now play a still more active role in Washington's plans. U.S. Marines may be transferred from Okinawa to "world hotspots" without consultation with the Japanese Government, although that is demanded by the Japanese-American "security treaty." American bases on Japanese territory will be used still more extensively in the Pentagon's adventures. The validity of the "security treaty," which was confined to the Far East, or so Tokyo and Washington used to contend, is now being extended to the Indian Ocean and the Near and Middle East.

Thus, AKAHATA writes, Japan is becoming a strongpoint for the American policy of aggression and interference not only in Asia but also throughout the world. Pointing out that this course runs counter to Japan's national interests, the newspaper demands that participation in the Pentagon's aggressive strategy be abandoned.

JAPANESE DEFENSE CHIEF COMMENTS ON 'SOVIET THREAT'

LD051631 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD

[From the "International Diary" program, presented by (Oleg Blinov) and Yevgeniy Grachev]

[Text] Cables from Tokyo summarize the KYODO interview granted by Kichizo Hosoda, chief of Japan's National Defense Agency.

In his interview the newly appointed Japan Defense Agency chief made a whole series of militant statements, including one about the possible adoption of some kind of laws, in the vent of extraordinary circumstances, as he put it. Hosoda also said that the Soviet Armed Forces present a serious threat to Japan.

Cables from Tokyo note that even very experienced politicians were quite taken aback. Prime Minister Ohira, for instance, said today that such statements represent only the personal viewpoint of the new chief of the National Defense Agency.

Observers note that the change in the leadership of the Japan Defense Agency was carried out in conditions of intensifying pressure from Washington, which is trying to involve Japan more extensively in its strategy in the Far East and in Asia as a whole.

KARMAL, AFGHAN LEADERS ATTEND MEETING ON PROPHET'S BIRTHDAY

LD052239 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1734 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Gennadiy Ariyevich and Yevgeniy Lukyanov]

[Text] According to reports from Kabul, life in the Afghan capital continues in a quiet and businesslike rhythm. Enterprises, institutions and teaching establishments are working and new houses are being constructed. Families which had been living in shacks are moving into them. The present period in the life of their country is being called by Afghans a new stage in the April 1978 revolution. It is characterized by strengthening of the unity of the people, and of democratic and religious freedoms in the country. The Muslim holiday, the birthday of the Prophet Mohammed, was widely marked in Afghanistan.

On that occasion a meeting was held in Kabul at which the leaders of the People's Democratic Party and the Afghan state, headed by Babrak Karmal, were present. Speaking at the meeting, 'Abdorrashid Arian, the Republic's justice minister, stressed that the state guarantees believers all the necessary conditions to celebrate religious services.

Justice Minister's Remarks

LD051458 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD

[Text] In the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan the Muslim festival of the anniversary of the birth of the prophet Mohammed was widely marked. A meeting was held in Kabul, at which Afghan Minister of Justice Arian spoke. He stressed that the state provides believers with all essential conditions for religious rites. He also recalled that the country's new leadership had adopted a special statement on full freedom of speech. Representatives of the Afghan clergy, in their speeches, wishes success to the Afghan people in the creation of a national front uniting all the country's patriotic forces.

BANDITRY IN AFGHANISTAN INCREASES WITH BRZEZINSKI'S PAKISTAN VISIT

LD051301 Moscow TASS in English 1228 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Kabul, February 5, TASS--Several groups of bandits equipped with U.S. weapons were brought into the borderline Afghan Province Nangarhar from the territory of its neighbour, Pakistan. In a number of districts, the bandits were cruelly slaying peaceful people, burnt down several schools, exploded bridges and roads. Units of the people's Afghan Army supported by the population started liquidating the gangs. Nangarhar is not the only province in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan into which new armed raids from the outside were made of late. Units of the Afghan Army routed a well-armed gang that was operating in Badakhshan. Another gang is now being liquidated in Paktia. All these groups, as prisoners attest, were trained a special bases and strong points in Pakistan situated in Peshawar, Chitral, Parachinar, Attock and Miramshah.

It should be noted that intensification of operations of bandits' groups knocked together abroad coincided in time with the visit to Pakistan by Brzezinski, assistant to the U.S. President, a representative of the Ministry of the Interior of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan told TASS correspondents.

A testimony of prisoners shows that on the eve of this visit, one of the leaders of bandit groupings that got entrenched in Pakistan, Gulbuddin Ekmatiar, made a call to his accomplices to show what they are capable of. There is information that the number of U.S. emissaries and "advisers" engaged in training and equipping bandit units increased in Pakistan before Brzezinski's visit. Two high-placed U.S. officers made an inspection trip to the rebels' "assembly point" at Harlatsi situated several kilometres away from the Pakistani-Afghan border.

'REVOLUTIONARY GAINS' IN AFGHANISTAN CONTINUE TO GROW

LD052154 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD

[Text] It is common knowledge that the United States, China and some other countries are hell bent to block the national development of Afghanistan. But despite insistent attempts aimed at thwarting the revolutionary gains in Afghanistan life there, especially in Kabul, is normal. Industrial enterprises, educational establishments and offices are working according to their schedule. Houses are being built for former slum dwellers. More on the subject from our special correspondents, Farid Seyful-Mulyukov and Viktor Bazilevich:

Growing national unity and the strengthening of democratic and religious freedoms are a characteristic feature of the Afghan scene today. The government of Babrak Karmal has proclaimed restoration of revolutionary democracy among its top priority tasks. Much has already been done in this direction: political prisoners have all been released; the practice of arbitrary arrest and searches have been abandoned. People have stopped living in fear and have acquired confidence. The day starts with a call for the morning prayers. Mosques are open everywhere.

The government program is aimed at building up the national economy and improving living standards for the mass of people. The land reform has entered its second stage during which it is planned to complete the distribution of landed estates which had once belonged to feudal lords among the rural poor, former farmhands and tenant farmers. For a country where 80 percent of the population live in rural areas a land reform is a very important undertaking.

Another major task set down by the government is to eliminate illiteracy. More than 8 million Afghans still can't read and write. There are plans to set up free medical services and to build more industrial facilities to absorb the jobless. Private trade and handicrafts are to develop parallel with the state-owned sector.

Government policies find increasing support among all sections of the Afghan society. Right now preparations are under way for setting up a national front embracing all political, public and religious organizations. The nation is determined to safeguard its revolutionary gains and to repel aggressive imperialist intrigues.

MITIN CRITICIZES SINO-U.S. ACTIONS IN AFGHANISTAN

OW061010 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 5 Feb 80 OW

[Mitin commentary: "Imperialist Scheme Surrounding Afghan Incident"]

[Text] Dear audience: You have already seen from newspapers and heard from radio broadcasts about Beijing's statement on the Afghan incident.

Beijing is bent on saying that the Soviet troops have invaded Afghanistan and calling the action of the Soviet troops an armed intervention in the internal affairs of Afghanistan.

It is well known that the Soviet troops' action is based on the Soviet-Afghan treaty and was at the request of the Afghan Government. Their only aim is to help the Afghan people resist foreign aggression. As has been announced, Soviet troops will withdraw from Afghanistan as soon as their mission is completed. These facts are totally ignored by Beijing. The Chinese propaganda machine clamors day and night about the Soviet Union infringing upon Afghanistan's independence and threatening peace. Everyone knows that U.S. reactionaries are also making the same clamour. Beijing and U.S. imperialism are singing in chorus and coordinating with each other very well. On this point, I would like to raise one question. Both Beijing and Washington claim that the Soviet troops should withdraw from Afghanistan immediately. Anti-Soviet gentlemen in the United States and China: Do you really hope that the Soviet troops will withdraw? This question may sound somewhat odd at first. Actually, it is not odd, because imperialism and its Beijing accomplices will be greatly disappointed if Soviet troops leave Afghanistan right away. Why? Because the Afghan incident is their excuse to undermine the cause of detente. The United States uses the Afghan incident as a trump card to aggravate the tense world situation. Its purpose is to attain its ambition of seeking hegemonism in Asia, and in the Middle and Near East.

According to foreign news agencies, Washington has already formulated a plan and is ready to transfer its troops to the Middle and Near East. A large number of U.S. warships, including three aircraft carriers, are deployed off the Iranian coast. Everyone knows that the United States never dispatched as many warships to the Vietnamese coast when it invaded Vietnam. At the same time, the United States raised a hue and cry on the Afghan incident as if it is evidence of the Soviet menace to Asia. It asks the leaders of the Middle and Near Eastern countries to allow it to build new military bases. Brzezinski, assistant to the U.S. President for national security affairs, also discussed this issue when he visited Islamabad.

According to a TIMES OF INDIA report, U.S. troops are continually arriving in Pakistan. From this, we can see that the Pentagon is continually expanding its military influence in the Middle and Near East, and exerting strenuous efforts to protect imperialist interests in that region. It has also turned the anti-Soviet hysteria whipped up by Beijing, under the pretext of the Afghan incident, into propaganda to defend its dangerous moves. The Beijing leaders are protecting imperialist interests while harming the interests of the Chinese people. Progressive people throughout the world had already drawn this conclusion long before the Afghan incident occured. Beijing's active participation in the war hysteria movement launched by Washington once again proves the correctness of this conclusion.

KULIK COMMENTS ON AFP 'MISINFORMATION' ON MASSACRE IN AFGHANISTAN

LD052008 Moscow TASS in English 1926 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 5, TASS--TASS political observer Sergey Kulik writes:

The FRANCE PRESSE AGENCY has issued malicious anti-Soviet misinformation running counter not only to the character of the traditional friendly relations between the Soviet Union and France, but also to common sense.

The point at issue is a report by an AFP correspondent from the city of Peshawar in Pakistan alleging that in April last year residents of the Afghan village of Kerala were massacred "with an active participation of Soviet officers."

The "presence" of Soviet people is "confirmed" by references that a certain "fair-hared officer in the Afghan uniform was allegedly seen in the place of the incident".

The authors of the invention are not at all embarassed by the fact that not a single Soviet officer had been either in Kerala, or was to be found all over Kunar Province, where it is situated. The story of the "massacre" is a lie from beginning to end.

It is astonishing that the whole of this foul invention has been echoed by the state French television programme as well by a number of Paris newspapers claiming to be authoritative and objective. Thus, LE MATIN was in a hurry to say: "The massacre in Kerala places Moscow in a very difficult position." But it is those in the West, who made anti-Sovietism and slanders their job, that have found themselves in a difficult position again. The people of Europe remember well how Soviet soldiers died on the fields of the Second World War to save them from Nazism and they will indignantly reject the fabrications by liars, the fabrications that are so mean that they would not be even worth answering, had this blatant lie be not spread all over the world and designed for millions of people.

It is an old hackneyed device, and those who are responsible for the tragedy of the Vietnamese Songmay village, the horrors of Chile and the South African Republic, the tragedy of Ulster, have always had and continue having recourse to it. They are precisely those who were tight-lipped on the policy of genocide pursued by the Maoist puppets Pol Pot-Ieng Sary, the genocide which carried a toll of three million lives of Kampucheans.

Neither it is by accident that the anti-Soviet slander were dished precisely from Peshawar, where the enemies of the new Democratic Afghanistan have entrenched themselves and which high-ranking political and military leaders from the USA, Britain and China have recently frequented. The lie fabrica[illegible]d not without their participation is a component part of the malicious campaign being wage[illegible] against the USSR and Afghanistan by imperialist propaganda and its Beijing assistants in connection with developments in Afghanistan.

IZVESTIYA SEES INDIAN 'CONCERN' OVER WESTERN, PRC POLICIES

LD041429 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Jan 80 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[I. Kovalev article under the rubric: "On International Topics": "Dangerous Provocations"]

[Text] India is deeply concerned at the sharp aggravation of the situation in South and southwest Asia caused by interference by the United States, Britain and China in the internal affairs of this region's countries.

There are more than sufficient grounds for concern. Every day the Indian press publishes reports of practical steps to strengthen U.S.-Chinese military-political relations, in which a special role is allocated to Pakistan. In particular an increase is noted in military deliveries from China to Pakistan through occupied Indian territory. A buildup in the flow of U.S. military shipments is expected daily. Although this is all being done on the pretext of "the events in Afghanistan," India is very well aware that the so-called "Afghan crisis" was created by the interference of the very same forces which are now shouting about the "Soviet threat."

As the Indians rightly believe, the arms which are being supplied to Pakistan could potentially be aimed against India, as is borne out by the experience of the past two decades. Delhi is also greatly alarmed by the virtual intervention of U.S. Armed Forces in the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf region, where large-scale U.S. Navy strike forces have been introduced. Considering the military-political alliance between Washington and Beijing, people here are not ruling out the entry of the Chinese Navy into the Indian Ocean following the U.S. Navy.

The militarist fuss directly on India's borders has been undertaken against the background of the general fueling of tension in South and southwest Asia. This includes Washington's threat to erect economic blockade barriers around Iran, an intensification of U.S. imperialism's intrigues in the Near East, and an activation among Chinese agents in Nepal, Bangladesh and Bhutan, fueling anti-Indian feelings in those countries. Provocative onslaughts by separatists, also incited and fed by Beijing, are continuing in India's northeastern states.

In the past few weeks India has become one of the main targets in Asia on which Western propaganda has been focusing its provocative efforts. The United States, Britain and their allies are seeking to distract India's attention from the real threat to peace and security in South Asia by means of a propaganda din and all sorts of official messages and visits by emissaries like British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, who used his stay in Delhi, in addition to everything else, for public anti-Soviet statements. Blatant attempts have been made and continue to be made to divert India from its nonalinement course and deprive it of the opportunity of pursuing a foreign policy base on national interests.

However, all these endeavors are encountering firm Indian determination to defend its vitally important interests and actively promote the consolidation of peace in South and southwest Asia and the safeguarding of security for the region's peoples.

PRAVDA NOTES GANDHI SUCCESS, COLLABORATION WITH COMMUNISTS

LD051035 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Jan 80 p 4 LD

[Article by Prof R. Ulyanovskiy, vice president of the Soviet-Indian Friendship Society: "India: Republic's Jubilee"]

[Excerpt] Questions connected with improving the country's economic situation, solving urgent socioeconomic problems and strengthening stability and law and order occupied an important place in the recent early parliamentary election. This demonstrated with the utmost clarity Indian voters' disappointment with more than 2 years of rule by the Janata Party government. A particularly indicative fact is that rightwing and religious community forces suffered a serious defeat in the elections, and their representation in the Indian Parliament decreased more than tenfold.

The election also showed that the Indian National Congress Party headed by well-known Indian politician I. Gandhi enjoys broad support from voters. The country's public pins its hopes on the Indian National Congress Party of overcoming economic difficulties, raising ordinary working people's living standards and defending the legitimate rights of religious minorities and representatives of the lowest castes. [paragraph continues]

In the opinion of Indian commentators, the future development of the domestic political situation in the country will largely depend on whether the ruling party fulfills the promises it gave the people before the elections and whether it is able to implement the promised socioeconomic transformations.

An important result of the recent election was the strengthening of leftwing forces' positions in the country's Parliament. For the first time in the last 15 years the Communist Party of India and the parallel Communist Party of India (Marxist) operated in a united front. The united action of the two communist parties represented in Parliament was to a considerable extent promoted by the coincidence of their positions on many domestic policy issues, and also by the emergent rapprochement between their assessments of a whole series of international events.

Despite the exceptional keenness of the domestic political struggle in India on the eve of the January parliamentary election, foreign policy issues were not the subject of any serious debate between the main political parties. This is evidence that the principles of India's foreign policy course elaborated by J. Nehru, such as dedication to the policy of nonalinement and consistent struggle against all forms of racism and colonialism and for the strengthening of international security and peace, enjoy broad support from the most diverse strata of the Indian people. The course of further strengthening friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union, which has always supported the Indian people in difficult times in the economic, political and other spheres, has also won nationwide recognition in the country.

The close, friendly relations between the Soviet Union and India were reliably enshrined in the Soviet-Indian peace, friendship and cooperation treaty. Soviet people express confidence that the friendship between the USSR and India will continue to develop and strengthen for the good of the two countries' peoples and will be an important factor for the relaxation of international tension and the strengthening of forces of peace, democracy and national independence. As L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, declared from the rostrum of the 25th CPSU Congress, "close political and economic cooperation with the Republic of India is our constant policy line. Soviet people view with sympathy--more, with a sense of solidarity--the peace-loving Indian foreign policy and the courageous struggle by the country's progressive forces to resolve the difficult socioeconomic tasks facing it."

Today, on India's national holiday, Soviet people sincerely wish its friendly people new successes in the struggle for the consolidation of independence and for social progress.

BRIEFS

USSR-NEPAL TRADE INCREASES--Katmandu, 4 February, TASS--Trade turnover between Nepal and the USSR grew by 60 percent in 1979 compared with the previous year. Last year contracts to supply Nepal with UAZ-4698 cars, T-25a tractors and spare parts for previously supplied vehicles and equipment were concluded between Soviet foreign trade associations and Nepalese state and private firms. The volume of sales by Nepal to the USSR of jute and raw hides increased several times. The top state companies are well acquainted with their Soviet foreign trade partners. According to their heads, Soviet goods are noted for their fine quality and are in great demand in the country's markets. They say that trade relations between Nepal and the USSR, which were set up a decade ago, are built on the foundation of mutual benefit and equality. [Text] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1613 GMT 4 Feb 80 LD]

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON HENG SAMRIN VISIT TO USSR

Pen Sovan Address

LD051902 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1404 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, 5 February, TASS--The Soviet-Kampuchean friendship meeting today at the Moscow Leninskiy Komsomol Autoworks was a clear demonstration of the growing fraternal friendship and international solidarity between the Soviet and Kampuchean peoples and of the community of interests between the two countries in the struggle against imperialism. Taking part in the meeting was a delegation of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation [KNUFNS] and the People's Revolutionary Council with Heng Samrin, chairman of the KNUFNS Central Committee and chairman of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea.

The speakers expressed satisfaction in connection with the successes of the people's power in Kampuchea in eliminating the remnants of the Pol Pot bands, organizing a peaceful life, normalizing the situation in the country, restoring the economy and reviving the national culture. "The delegation's visit," the speakers stressed, "will serve the strengthening of fraternal friendship between the Soviet and Kampuchean peoples."

Together with the Kampuchean comrades at the meeting were Mikhail Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Pavel Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and other officials.

Pen Sovan, deputy chairman of the People's Revolutionary Council, minister of national defense and commander in chief of the People's Revolutionary Army of Kampuchea, said: On 7 January our people marked the first anniversary of the great victory. This victory resulted in the creation of the People's Republic of Kampuchea [PRK], the elimination of the genocidal regime of Pol Pot and Ieng Sary, which was a tool in the hands of Beijing hegemonism, and the opening up of a new stage in the progressive development of Kampuchea. In this short period the Kampuchean people have achieved considerable success in removing the threat of hunger and in restoring stability and normal conditions of life for the people at the cost of heroic labor and thanks to the sincere help from the fraternal socialist countries--the USSR and Vietnam--and other progressive countries of the world. The People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea has already geen recognized by more than 30 countries and national liberation movements. Unwilling to reconcile themselves to the defeat, the Beijing expansionists, U.S. imperialists and other reactionary forces are unhesitatingly having recourse to dirty intrigues against the PRK.

However, these dark designs are an empty waste of effort. The past year has shown that under the new social system state power and the Kampuchean people are united, the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea is the only true and legitimate representative of the people of Kampuchea, the expressor of its hopes and aspirations, Pen Sovan continued. In order to withstand the hostile actions and the threats to the basic rights of the people of Kampuchea, our people wish to strengthen the links of solidarity with the peoples of Vietnam, Laos, the USSR, the peoples of other fraternal socialist countries and with all the peace-loving peoples of the world and those who come out for justice.

The presence of the Vietnamese People's Army on Kampuchean soil at the request of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Council is necessary in present circumstances for the joint defense of the gains of the revolution together with the army and the people of Kampuchea. This accords with the interests of the peoples of the two countries and with international law and the UN Charter.

We are trying to establish stable, friendly relations and cooperation with the countries in Southeast Asia on the principles of respect for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and political order, noninterference in each others' internal affairs and the settlement of disputes by negotiation and peaceful means, Pen Sovan said. He stressed: We fully support the great efforts of the Soviet Union and particularly the new and important initiatives put forward of late by Leonid Brezhnev which are aimed at deepening detente in international affairs and which are an important contribution to the cause of peace in Europe and throughout the world. We condemn the imperialist-led NATO bloc which is accelerating the arms race and increasing tension throughout the world. We severely condemn the U.S. imperialists and Beijing reactionaries which have united to undermine the revolution in Afghanistan and which distort the just actions of the Soviet Union which has rendered major and effective assistance to that country.

Ministerial Talks

LD051654 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Talks ended in the Kremlin today between delegations of the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Kampuchea. Taking part in the talks were, on the Soviet side: Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and head of the delegation; Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs; Dmitriy Fedorovich Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense; Nikolay Aleksandrovich Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Arkhipov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and Skachkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations; on the Kampuchean side: Heng Samrin, chairman of the Central Committee of the United Front for National Salvation, president of the People's Revolutionary Council of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and head of the delegation; Pen Sovan, vice president of the People's Revolutionary Council, minister of national defense and commander in chief of the People's Revolutionary Army of Kampuchea; Hun Sen, member of the Central Committee of the United Front and minister of foreign affairs; Kec Chanda, minister of information, the press and culture; Nu Beng, minister of health and social affairs; Chan Ven, member of the Central Committee of the United Front and minister of education; Tang Saroem, minister of domestic and foreign trade [name and title as received]; Di Phin, chief of the General Logistics Department of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Army; and Keo Prasat, Kampuchean ambassador the the USSR.

In the course of the talks an exchange of views was continued on ways for the further deepening of all-round links between the Soviet Union and People's Revolutionary Kampuchea and on strengthening interaction in international affairs. On the Soviet side readiness was confirmed to provide Kampuchea with broad support in its struggle for independence and sovereignty and in the restoration of the economy and raising the living standards of the people. Both delegations expressed complete satisfaction with the fruitful results of the talks.

The talks were attended by Blatov, aide to the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Firyubin, deputy USSR minister of foreign affairs, and Bostorin, USSR ambassador to the People's Republic of Kampuchea, on the Soviet side.

The talks passed in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and complete unity of views.

Trade, Aid Agreement Signed

LD051829 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD

[Text] The following report has just been received: The signing of Soviet-Kampuchean documents took place today in the Great Palace of the Kremlin. The Soviet-Kampuchean statement, reflecting the main results of the talks, was signed, for the USSR, by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, and for the People's Republic of Kampuchea [PRK] by Heng Samrin. Comrades Brezhnev and Heng Samrin also signed an agreement on the delivery of goods from the USSR to the PRK in 1980. A number of other Soviet-Kampuchean agreements were also signed.

The agreement on cultural and scientific cooperation was signed by Gromyko, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR foreign minister, and Pen Sovan, vice president of the People's Revolutionary Council, minister of national defense and commander in chief of the People's Revolutionary Army of Kampuchea. The agreement on economic and technical cooperation was signed by Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Pen Sovan. The trade agreement was signed by Patolichev, USSR minister of external trade and Tang Saroem, minister of internal and external trade of the PRK. The agreement on the provision of urgent economic and technical assistance to the PRK for restoring national-economy objects and other work was signed by Skachkov, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, and Tang Saroem.

Those present during the signing of the documents were: on the Soviet side, Comrades Andropov, Kirilenko, Suslov, Ustinov, Gorbachev, Demichev, Kuznetsov, Solomentsev, Kapitonov, Dolgikh and Rusakov; deputy chairmen of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and of the USSR Council of Ministers, ministers of the USSR, chairmen of USSR state committees and other officials; and on the Kampuchean side, members of the Kampuchean delegation.

Round Up of Activities

LD052248 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1905 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD

[Excerpt] Today the Kampuchean delegation visited the Lenin Mausoleum and laid a wreath. A wreath was also laid at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in the Kremlin Wall. The delegation also visited the Marshal Malinovskiy Armored Troops Military Academy.

A Soviet-Kampuchean friendship meeting was held in Moscow today. It became a clear demonstration of the growing fraternal friendship and international solidarity of the Soviet and Kampuchean peoples, and the two countries' shared interest in the struggle against imperialism.

In the evening in the USSR Bolshoy Theater the guests watched Tchaikovskiy's ballet the Nutcracker. In the central box, which was decorated with the state flags of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Soviet Union, were Heng Samrin, Pen Sovan and other members of the delegation. With them were Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and other officials. The national anthems of Kampuchea and the Soviet Union were played at the state of the performance.

Shishlin Commentary

LD052140 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1915 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD

[Text] The Soviet-Kampuchean talks have ended in Moscow. Here is writer on international affairs, Nikolay Shishlin: [begin recording]

The visit to Moscow by the Kampuchean delegation headed by Heng Samrin and the delegation's talks with the Soviet leaders headed by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev are of undoubted importance on more than one plane.

First and foremost, bilateral Soviet-Kampuchean relations have undoubtedly gained from this visit, becoming deeper and making fresh advances.

The second point to which I should like to draw your attention is that the Kampuchean people have undergone enormous suffering, and that it is the internationalist links between the new Kampuchea and the socialist countries, the Soviet Union and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam that make it possible to compress to the maximum the period of rebirth of the Kampuchean nation and the time required to heal the deep wounds wrought on Kampuchea by the barbaric Pol Pot regime.

The third point to which I should like to draw your attention is that this visit and the results of this visit will undoubtedly promote a certain smoothing out of the situation in Southeast Asia. The slackening of tension in one corner of the world or another is undoubtedly of great importance for the world political atmosphere as a whole.

It should be noted in particular that during this visit the unshakable devotion of the Soviet Union to a policy of peace was confirmed in an impressive and authoritative way. At the present crucial time, international relations are marked by a burst or peak of tension. The Soviet Union, through the lips of its leader, has stated its firm adherence to a policy of peace and its readiness to continue working in such important directions as limiting the arms race, overcoming crisis situations in the world and turning the Indian Ocean zone into a peace zone as the coastal states insist. I think that the world will hear and understand well Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's statement that for us any road leading to lasting peace is an acceptable and desirable one. And the Soviet Union does many things in order that mankind's progress is along that very road. [end recording]

U.S., PRC ACCUSED OF OPERATING 'BLOCKADE' AGAINST KAMPUCHEA

LD051113 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jan 80 p 4 LD

[Special correspondents Yu. Zhukov and I. Shchedrov dispatch: "Neither Shame nor Conscience; About Washington's Refusal to Give Kampuchea Food Aid"]

[Text] Phnom Penh-Moscow--In the first days of the new year the U.S. State Department announced that the United States was stopping even the infinitesimal food aid which it had been giving Kampuchea through international organizations--chiefly by way of the UN World Food Program (FAO).

At the same time, clearly under U.S. pressure, FAO directors, who had handed over certain amounts of food for Kampuchea through the International Red Cross and the UN Children's Fund, announced a "temporary halt" to the dispatch of its goods. They gave as a pretext the hastily conceived and thoroughly false allegation of some sort of "violation of the aid distribution regulations" allegedly "for political reasons."

Reports of these decisions reflect the increasingly clearly expressed U.S. desire to use the "bony hand of hunger" as an inhuman weapon against countries which it dislikes. It was this that the Russian capitalist Ryabushinskiy once threatened to use to strangle our revolution.

A shortsighted calculation: Kampuchea will not be abandoned in its misfortune either by the fraternal people of Vietnam, or by the other socialist countries, or by the progressive world public, which are giving it the necessary assistance not in words but in deeds. [paragraph continues]

But the U.S. decision will, boomerang hard against the United States itself. For it graphically shows the real worth of the artificially dramatized propaganda which Washington has been conducting for several months on the need to "save" Kampuchea from the starvation to which it is supposedly doomed...by Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

As long ago as last December, before leaving for Kampuchea, we read in the New York TIMES an article by its political commentator James Reston. Citing an "American intelligence report," he ventured to declare that..."Moscow is not only refusing (!) to alleviate the sufferings of the Kampuchean people but is also in fact blocking (!) the distribution of food and medical supplies arriving from other countries." One R.P. Parignaux, introduced as a LE MONDE correspondent, is in unison with him. Starting with the charge that "many tens (!) of thousands of tons of food aid given over the past 2 months" by the West "have not been distributed," he goes so far as to utter a monstrous slander. In the Kampuchean port of Kompong Som, this gentleman maintains, no less than 23,000 of the 30,000 tons of rice supplied by the West is being kept under lock and key in warehouses packed to capacity. This situation, whereby warehouses of food have been given over to rats to eat, the slanderer exclaims, demands urgent action.

The liars who compiled the truly fantastic "CIA report" declared that "the Vietnamese and representatives of the Heng Samrin government in fact prevented (!) gathering of the harvest," thereby dooming the people to starvation.

Reston, not at all embarrassed that the CIA did not cite a single fact in confirmation of its wildest allegations, painted the melodramatic reaction to this "report" on the part of President Carter who, according to him, exclaimed: "Do they really not have an ounce of pity?"

Unlike James Reston and his colleagues who boldly seized upon the CIA forgery, we carefully immediately checked on the situation regarding the reception and distribution of foreign aid to Kampuchea's population and can declare with good reason:

First, the aid being sent not by way of Thailand to Pol Pot and other gangs but to the People's Republic of Kampuchea through the Port of Kompong Som, through Phnom Penh Airport and along the Mekong river arrives without hindrance;

Second, it is immediately and fully distributed among the population;

Third, no one is hindering either the gathering of the harvest or new sowings; on the contrary, the Vietnamese are giving all possible assistance in this matter.

Although the Socialist Republic of Vietnam is itself experiencing difficulties over food, it has provided Kampuchea with tens of thousands of tons of rice seed, which were carried by Aeroflot aircraft (Pol Pot's followers villainously burned Kampuchean rice seed stocks before their shameful flight).

Incidentally, there was no need at all to have recourse to top-secret CIA operations to establish and verify the actual situation concerning the distribution of aid, for dozens of representatives of specialized UN organizations and Western charitable associations are constantly in the People's Republic of Kampuchea, and the authorities have given them extensive opportunities to familiarize themselves with the situation locally and to observe the distribution of aid arriving from foreign countries. While we were in Kampuchea, food and medical supplies were being distributed in the provinces of Kompong Chhnang, (Pousat), Battambang and Siem Reap, and representatives of the International Red Cross, as well as of French and British charitable organizations, were everywhere present during this.

We had occasion to meet and talk with some of them, in particular, with representatives of the International Red Cross and to hear authoritative statements to the effect that all the aid that arrives is handled quickly and then passed on to the population through the local organs of power. Each time--and we ourselves witnessed this--the reception of aid is accompanied by the drawing up of documents with a detailed enumeration of the goods handed over.

We set out for the Port of Kompong Som to see with our own eyes how the foreign aid is received. We reached the republic's "sea gateway" in 4 hours by car along an excellent highway, covering approximately 250 km. We were constantly meeting columns of trucks with food and medical supplies heading from Kompong Som to the country's various provinces. Halfway there a railroad train thundered toward us. It was carrying food and equipment which had arrived by sea.

In the port we met with provincial leader (Non Nen), who had taken charge of unloading work to expedite it as much as possible. "What you have seen on the roads," he said, "is the best reply to the slanderers who asserted that aid can only be sent via Thailand and that goods do not reach Kampuchea's population through Kompong Song. In fact, we dispatch up to 1,000 and sometimes more tons of goods by road and rail every day."

At first the work was hampered by a shortage of skilled dockers and port equipment. "But everything changed in striking way," (Non Nen) continued his story, "in October, when a Far East expedition of Soviet dockers came to our assistance on the diesel-engined ship 'Lyubov Orlova."

During those days we heard many kind words from the Kampucheans about the selfless work of Soviet specialists in the distant tropical port which is returning to life after the awful night of the Beijing Minions' butcher regime. An international collective embracing 92 Soviet dockers and 89 crew members of the Lyubov Orlova, more than 40 Vietnamese and approximately 700 Kampucheans are now working there under difficult conditions. We went on board the ship and familarized ourselves with the way in which our specialists from Vladivostok, Nakhodka, Vanino, Korsakov and Moscow live and work, setting examples of communist labor....

In the words of expedition chief Mikhail Fedorovich Robkanov, "Everyone works selflessly, and there is probably no need to single anyone out"--it is a united collective. Since August the port has received approximately 30 ocean-going ships, almost half of which have been Soviet. Our specialists have to tackle everything. Soviet dockers and sailors not only unload these ships along with Kampucheans and Vietnamese, they also load the incoming food onto the trucks and railcars.

At the same time our dockers and sailors are training Kampucheans in the basic port trades. They restore and repair equipment. Thanks to their efforts, the power station and pumphouse in the port have been recommissioned, and a repair workshop, garage and rigging store have been set up. Restoration work is being completed on the city's waterworks.

We saw a great deal in the port. There was just one thing we did not discover--those very mythical tens of thousands of tons of food and medical supplies allegedly sent from Western countries and, as the CIA liars maintained, allegedly hidden in Kompong Som warehouses so that--God forbid!--they do not fall into the hands of the Kampuchean people. And yet brazen use is being made of this vile slander to slow down the already not very generous flow of "humanitarian aid" from the West.

Receiving us in Phnom Penh, Heng Samrin, chairman of the Central Committee of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation, angrily refuted the American administration's inventions to the effect that someone is hindering the reception and distribution of foreign aid and that this aid is not getting through to the population.

"We are doing everything," he said, "to insure that any gift to our people, who suffered and starved so under the yoke of the Beijing henchmen--Pol Pot's followers--is issued to the people as quickly as possible, and those who allege that the food sent is not getting through to the people are barefaced liars. I beg you to declare publicly that the chief purpose of the hypocritical ballyhoo raised by the American authorities over the need to save the Kampuchean people from starvation was to organize, under the guise of aid to the poverty-stricken Kampucheans, supplies via Thailand to the surviving Pol Pot gangs--which was where the lion's share of this 'aid' was being sent. And when this plan was exposed and international organizations began using the Port of Kompong Som and Phnom Penh Airport to deliver goods, Washington decided to exert pressure to stop this aid altogether...."

Heng Samrin fell silent for a few minutes, and then continued:

"We have received and are receiving great, disinterested aid from the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Thus the volume of Soviet supplies alone is several times in excess of what we have received from all international and charitable organizations in the West put together. We are well aware that it is not easy for the socialist countries to do this. They share with us in a really fraternal way everything they have, and we are profoundly grateful to them for this...."

The hostile steps being taken by the United States against the People's Republic of Kampuchea--and it is inciting its allies to act in just the same way--confirm the ample evidence that it is a case of an attempt to organize an economic blockade of the republic so as to strangle it with the "bony hand of hunger."

Some of the United States' most obedient partners--China, above all--have already been drawn into this unseemly operation. Thus, since the end of 1978 Beijing has not permitted the use of PRC land, water and airways in any form to deliver goods to the countries of Indochina, including Kampuchea.

In recent months, under flagrant pressure from the United States and China, certain states in Southeast Asia, including Thailand, have banned freight planes of the USSR and other socialist countries bringing aid to Kampuchea and Vietnam from overflying their territory. In fact, just one way now remains open--the sea. If that is not an economic blockade, what is?

But Washington continues to utter hypocritical words about the misfortunes of the Kampuchean people and to allege that someone in Moscow, Hanoi and Phnom Penh is hindering aid to the Kampucheans. Well, after this how can one not put again the inevitable question to those who are orchestrating this spurious campaign: Gentlemen, have you even a smidgen of shame?

MASHEROV-LED DELEGATION RETURNS TO USSR

LD042214 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 4 Feb 80 LD

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by Masherov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, returned to Moscow today. It had been in Vietnam on an official visit at the invitation of the Standing Committee of the republic's National Assembly.

GIEREK, HUSAK EXPRESS 'SOLIDARITY' WITH AFGHANISTAN

LD051315 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 80 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Unity of Views"]

[Excerpt] Prague, 29 January--A friendly working meeting has been held here between G. Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the CSSR, and E. Gierek, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee.

The communique published after this meeting states that the leaders of the CPCZ and the PZPR express full agreement with the assessments of the present international situation given by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The CSSR and Poland, the communique stresses, also confirm their determination to make every effort to hinder the imperialist forces' attempts to return the world to the times of the cold war. The NATO decision to deploy new types of U.S. nuclear missile weapons in a number of West European countries threatens the security of all peoples of West Europe and universal peace.

The leaders of the two parties expressed solidarity with the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and demanded the cessation of the interference by the imperialist forces and Beijing hegemonists in the internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The two sides condemned the anti-Soviet and antisocialist campaign which is pursuing the dangerous goals of undermining the process of detente and is aimed against the national liberation movement.

ANNIVERSARY OF SOVIET-ROMANIAN TREATY MARKED

AU050830 Moscow in Romanian to Romania 1806 GMT 4 Feb 80 AU

[Text] On the occasion of 32nd anniversary of the signing of the first Soviet-Romanian treaty, today's Soviet press publishes material devoted to this memorable date. IZVESTIYA carries a correspondence from Bucharest dealing with cooperation between the two countries. Following the signing 32 years ago of the treaty between the Soviet Union and Romania, the author of that correspondence writes, conditions were created for Romania's successful progress on the road of socialism. Dealing then with the construction of the socialist society, the republic relied on intensive economic cooperation with the Soviet Union and other fraternal countries. The newspaper then stresses that a vivid expression of the desire of the two fraternal countries to strengthen their friendship and cooperation was the signing of the new Soviet-Romanian treaty on 7 July 1970.

In the process of implementing this document--which was a logical continuation of the 1948 treaty--relations between the Soviet Union and the Socialist Republic of Romania acquired an even deeper and all-round nature. Cooperation in key branches of the industry, science and technology were given a new impetus. Trade between the Soviet Union and Romania is successfully developing; under the current 5-year plan its volume will total 9 billion rubles. That is 70 percent more than in the preceding 5-year plan. The Soviet Union remains the main trade partner of Romania. The peoples of the Soviet Union and Romania are jointly progressing along the road of building socialism and communism and are actively struggling for international detente, security and cooperation on the European Continent, IZVESTIYA concludes.

FRG ARMY TO JOIN TASK FORCE IN GULF, INDIAN OCEAN

DW051243 Moscow in German to Germany 1112 GMT 4 Feb 80 DW

[Georgiy Aleksandrov Sunday commentary]

[Summary] Last week intensive discussions were held in the West on the basic elements of East-West relations in the light of the present strained international situation. As far as official quarters in Bonn are concerned, all of them consider it their duty to be loyal to NATO and bow before the United States.

"But in this regard, too, which is determined by the constant values of West German foreign policy, very substantial nuances and value judgments are to be observed. As for the leaders of the opposition right wing, they obviously want to be more Catholic than the pope. Alfred Dregger not only unreservedly approved of the militarist activities of the White House but even demanded that the FRG join in the blitz missions planned by the Americans.

"In fact, the Bundeswehr is to be incorporated into the formation of a Western task force in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. This means that, in the opinion of Dregger and Christian Democratic Union [CDU] foreign policy expert Manfred Woerner, if Washington wants to use something like an iron fist in this region to insure that the oil-rich countries do not refuse to obey the American octopus, then the FRG should not keep aloof. It should participate in blackmail the attempts which are being made on the pretext that the West must protect its oil flow against the Soviet monster which could stop it at any moment.

"These people are by no means worried about the financial and political costs that may be involved. Nor do they mind the fact that the U.S. oil multinationals, which receive a net profit for every barrel of crude oil which is three times the net profit the OPEC countries in the Middle East get, have interests which by no means square with the national interests of the Federal Republic or even with the interests of a stable energy supply for its economy.

"In this context it is noteworthy that even Franz-Josef Strauss, who wants to improve his image in the election year and tries to be considered a sensible and sober politician, does not go that far in his pledge of solidarity with the White House. Apart from the known CDU/Christian Social Union vocabulary, his speeches also contain statements in favor of detente. He seems to have realized that the horse which Carter wants to ride back into the White House once again is not good enough for a ride to Bonn.

"Any statements made in the camp of the government coalition are now being noted with special attention. But political observers stress that in the present situation, which is being heated up by U.S. militarist quarters, Bonn obviously has not yet set its course definitely. There is a natural wish to avoid being called opponents of detente, which has manifested itself in statements by Social Democratic Party Chairman Willy Brandt and Federal Chancellor Helmut Schmidt. However, statements are being made now by top officials which are incompatible with the interests of equal cooperation among peoples. Trying to hold the Soviet Union responsible for undermining detente flies in the face of facts and logic. The same tendency also has come to light in the statements made and interviews granted by Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher. One should not think that such statements are a mere play with words on the ill-famed Atlantic solidarity and are of no real political importance."

Such statements can only heat up the climate and play into the hands of extreme rightist politicians. The Federal Republic should be guided by its own interests only and not by those of an overseas power.

FRANCE, FRG DO NOT SUPPORT UK EEC, ANTI-SOVIET POLICIES

LD051239 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jan 80 p 5 LD

[Correspondent Yu. Kharlanov report: "Playing the Role of the 'Trojan Horse'"]

[Text] Paris, 28 January--Ian Gilmour, London's envoy, left Paris extremely downcast. He had suffered a further defeat in the "lamb war," as the Paris press has christened the prolonged dispute between Britain and France concerning the export of British lamb to Europe. Making use of the intricate system of compensation payments within the framework of the Common Market agricultural policy, and also of the import of cheap meat from Australia and New Zealand, the British began to crowd the French out of West European markets. This provoked Paris to impose a ban for a time on purchases of British meat. Ian Gilmour came to Paris to demand that the French immediately pay a penalty of Fr177 million, which, naturally, they politely refused to do. At the same time the French side refused to support London's demand for the British contribution to the Common Market's joint funds to be considerably reduced.

But the main reason for the British diplomat's bad mood is not that. He flew to the Continent as a representative of not only British but also American interests. Speaking in the French Institute of International Relations, he demanded, for instance, that Western Europe rally around Britain and the United States to "rebuff Soviet Marxism." He made similar remarks in Bonn.

However, as LES ECHOS, the French business newspaper, writes, Ian Gilmour did not find many people sympathetic to his views", either in Bonn or in Paris. In the FRG it was pointed out to him frankly that people there "regard Mrs Thatcher's positions as too bellicose."

London found no better answer than to vilify its West European partners. In a headline over the whole front page, the DAILY EXPRESS calls the French "thieving jackals." The SUN regards Paris' position as an "affront" to President Carter's efforts. A French television correspondent in London who displayed these newspaper headlines on the small screen could only sigh heavily at the decline of the old British gentlemen's moral standards.

L'HUMANITE recalls that General de Gaulle once called Britain the "U.S. Trojan horse in Europe". Mrs Thatcher's current behavior, the newspaper writes, confirms this.

SOVIET ARMY CHOIR, VOLSHOY BALLET CANCEL FRENCH TOUR

LD051653 Paris LE MONDE in French 1 Feb 80 p 5 LD

[Unattributed report: "Soviet Army Choir French Tour Cancelled"]

[Text] The Soviet Army's Kiev Choir and Dance Troupe has cancelled its French tour scheduled from 3 February to the end of March, the tour organizer indicated on 28 January. The tour was canceled "in view of the international context." There was no performance planned for Paris. The Moscow Bolshoy Opera's visit to Paris, planned for 25 March through 15 April, is in principle still on. However, discussions are taking place between the organizers and the Foreign Ministry on the advisability of this visit. A decision is expected shortly.

[Paris Domestic Service in French at 1800 GMT on 5 February 1980 adds: "It has just been reported that the tour which the lyrical troupe of the Moscow Bolshoy Ballet was due to make to Paris from 26 March to 15 April has been canceled. The Red Army Choir has already canceled its tour. Clearly, these are consequences of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan."]

PRAVDA NOTES IRANIAN DISAPPROVAL OF ISLAMABAD ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

LD051503 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Feb 80 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "Tehran: Condemning the Islamic Conference Decisions"]

[Text] A protest march called for by Islamic student associations was organized here the other day. Students and young people participated in it. During the demonstration there were speeches criticizing the convening of the Islamic Conference session in Islamabad. As influential an organization as the QOM ideological center joined in the students' protest. This center adopted a declaration saying that the convening of the Islamic Conference session at the instigation of the United States and world Zionism is a great threat to the Iranian revolution since the Americans, with the help of reactionary regimes in a number of subject countries, are trying to cause conflict between Muslims throughout the world, including Iran and the Soviet Union. The Iranian press continues sharply to oppose the Islamic Conference decisions. Religious press organs condemn the policy of concessions to and compromise with American imperialism which was manifested at the Islamabad session. Press materials stress that the Iranian people will not accept talks in Islamabad at the same tables as the accomplices of U.S. imperialism. Saudi Arabia and Pakistani President Ziaul Haq come in for criticism. It is noted that the Pakistani president maintained close ties and cooperated with the enemy of the Iranian people--the former shah.

KUVALDIN DISCUSSES BRZEZINSKI AIMS IN TALKS WITH SAUDI LEADERS

LD052210 Moscow TASS in English 1752 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 5, TASS--TASS commentator Georgiy Kuvaldin writes:

Zbigniew Brzezinski, the U.S. President's national security adviser, and the leaders of Saudi Arabia are holding talks in Riyadh. Washington's emissary went there in order to pressure Riyadh into joining actively in the efforts of the U.S. administration to increase and expand American military and political presence in the Middle and Near East and in the American plans to turn Pakistan into a bridgehead for aggression against South Asian states. At the same time Washington, being anxious to undermine the common Arab position that was forged jointly at the summit Arab conferences in Baghdad and Tunis, would like to counterpose Saudi Arabia to other Arab countries which condemned the Camp David agreements and to weaken its opposition to this separate deal.

But despite the fact that Saudi Arabia continues maintaining close ties with the USA in various fields, including the military one, the Saudi Arabian leaders display certain restraint with regard to the United States' far-reaching plans and the missions of American emissaries. The recent talks on "Palestinian autonomy" held with Saudi Arabians by Sol Linowitz, special representative of the U.S. President, ended in failure.

Reports by news agencies indicate that Riyadh also made it clear that it does not wish to have American military bases in its territory. A number of Arab countries, the influential Saudi Arabian newspaper ARAB NEWS writes in this connection, have sharply turned down the U.S. President's proposal for American military presence in the region.

They in Riyadh are also critical of the United States position on the problem of Middle East settlement and turn down the Camp David deal as one which does not meet in the least the interests of Arabs. Saudi Arabians demand withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab territories, including the liberation of the eastern part of Jerusalem and Moslem holy places there, and a just settlement of the Palestine problem without delay.

GROMYKO'S DAMASCUS TALKS ELICIT 'POSITIVE' ARAB COMMENT

LD051225 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Feb 80 p 4 LD

[TASS roundup: "Following the Course of Friendship and Cooperation"]

[Text] The results of the talks between A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, and the Syrian leaders in Damascus have met with sidespread positive response in the Arab world. The Arab countries' press, radio and television are assessing the Soviet-Syrian talks as a vivid manifestation of the Soviet Union's support for the Arab peoples in their struggle to achieve a just and all-embracing settlement in the Near East and thwart the attempts by imperialist forces--primarily the United States--and Zionism to strike a blow against the national liberation movement in the region.

Giving an account of the Soviet-Syrian joint communique, the Arab press notes that the Soviet Union and Syria stressed the particular importance of strengthening the Arab countries' and peoples' cohesion and unity of action on the common platform of the struggle against capitulationism in Near East affairs and for a just and lasting peace in the Near East.

Damascus, 31 January--The Soviet-Syrian talks, AL-BA'TH writes, were held within the context of the relations of firm friendship linking Syria with the Soviet Union. They assume particular importance nowadays, when the forces of imperialism, Zionism and reaction have launched a new onslaught in the Near East, jeopardizing peace throughout the world.

The successful talks between A.A. Gromyko and President H. al-Asad, Syrian radio notes in its commentary, are an important stage along the path of developing fruitful Soviet-Syrian cooperation. The political consultations carried out during the talks are evidence of the coincidence of the Syrian and Soviet leaderships' viewpoints on the most important problems of the international situation.

Beirut, 31 January--Damascus and Moscow resolutely condemned the military bloc policy pursued by imperialism and rejected the Camp David collusion and the so-called "administrative autonomy" for Palestinian Arabs, Beirut's AS-SAFIR writes.

Commenting on the results of the Soviet-Syrian talks, local political observers stress that the USSR is the loyal friend of the Arabs, the loyal friend of all Islamic peoples, and that it is the Soviet Union that has repeatedly come to their assistance when a threat really loomed over them.

The visit to Syria by the Soviet Union's foreign minister marks a new stage in the development of Soviet-Syrian cooperation, ASH-SHARQ stresses. Syria has become the main bastion of the struggle against the Camp David collusion. So the frankness of the Israeli threats against Syria is clear, and one can understand why Tel Aviv is moving its tank formations from Sinai to the Syrian and Lebanese borders.

Everyone in the Arab world realizes that the strengthening of the American military presence in the Near East leads to the strengthening of Israel and relegates this Near East settlement process to some more distant period. So A.A. Gromyko's talks in Damascus, ASH-SHARQ writes, are of great importance not only for strengthening Soviet-Syrian friendship, but also for consolidating all the anti-imperialist forces opposing the Camp David collusion.

Amman, 31 January--The results of the Soviet-Syrian talks reflect the desire of the Soviet Union and Syria to establish lasting and just peace in the Near East, Amman's AL-AKHBAR writes.

OMAN'S AL-GHAZALI CONFIRMS DETERMINATION TO DEFEND HORMUZ STRAIT

LD051440 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Our correspondent Kim Gerasimov reports from Cairo:

The head of the military delegation from Oman currently visiting Egypt, Brigadier al-Ghazali, has stated that Oman, as he put it, is fully determined to defend the Strait of Hormuz for the benefit of the oil-producing countries in the area.

With his statement Brigadier al-Ghazali won Cairo's applause; Cairo values the fact that Oman--as distinct from the majority of other Arab states--has not broken off relations with Egypt following its separate peace deal with Israel.

However, amazingly, this statement has failed to arouse the enthusiasm of those whose interests are to be protected, namely the countries of the Persian Gulf. All former appeals of Sultan Qabus of Oman, to set up a regional military bloc in the Persian Gulf with overt or covert participation of NATO states have not drawn cries of welcome from them either.

In reply to attempts to impose on them participation in a military pact with strings to the West, the countries of the gulf are determined to uphold their independence themselves.

In recent times Oman has changed its tactics and started giving assurances that it will defend single-handed the entrance to the Persian Gulf. However, this has only increased misgivings, since in spite of the ballyhoo about the alleged Soviet threat to the Persian Gulf, it is quite obvious that the real danger to the normal life and functioning of the major center of world oil extraction is posed by the activities of the United States. It is the United States which has massed over 20 naval vessels on the approaches to the gulf, including two aircraft carriers. It is the United States which is hastily setting up the so-called quick deployment corps having declared the Persian Gulf as the main aim of its operations. It is the United States which has declared its intention to mine the Strait of Hormuz. Maybe the sultan's rightwing soldiery would rise up in the path of the U.S. naval vessels should they try to enter the straits: nothing of the sort. Currently the question is being discussed of granting these vessels the use of Oman bases. Oman, together with Egypt, is one of the few Arab countries which have fully supported Washington's dangerous actions in the Near and Middle East.

Just like Washington's actions, their policy is meeting with distrust and hostility on the part of the majority of the countries in the area.

IZVESTIYA Article

LD051133 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Jan 80 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[A. Kapralov article under the rubric "Ironic Sketches": "To Business, Your Majesty"]

[Text] Recently France's LE MONDE asked Sultan Qabus of Oman what was involved in the Hormuz Strait "security plan" put forward by him (note). (The Hormuz Strait is the southern extremity of the Persian Gulf. About 60 percent of oil consumed by the capitalist world is transported through it).

This is how the sultan began his reply: "We want to be able to sweep for any mines which could be placed in the strait. We also want to be able to put out tanker fires...."

The reader will allow us to pause here for a moment and ask: What is the sultan afraid of? Surely it is not really tanker fires? No, it is not a fire at sea that frightens Qabus but a "fire" on dry land--an explosion of the people's anger in his own sultanate, whose subjects fate has been poverty, ignorance and unemployment. Qabus, as America's TIME magazine wrote recently, "is sitting on a time bomb."

So perhaps the sultan is afraid that one of this ships will hit a mine in the Hormuz Strait? Again, this is unlikely. Oman has an open exit into the Arabian Sea and there is no reason for its ships to enter the strait. All the sultan's oil wealth which can be extracted in one day can be contained in one medium-sized supertanker.

It follows that "mines" have no place in Qabus's "defense" concept. Nevertheless, as further ensues from the interview, for the sultan himself both the first and the second arguments seem a sufficiently forceful reason to "create just a small naval base" relying on U.S. and West European aid.

Here, as they say, the sultan unburdens himself. The former shah of Iran's gendarme uniform has long been the object of his unconcealed envy. "Today," Qabus stated, "it (Iran--A.K.) no longer helps us. It is precisely this which places on us a new responsibility, which we have no intention at all of sharing with anyone." Of course, the former, "gulf sentry's"uniform does not quite fit Qabus and has to be altered considerably by the Washington tailor to make it fit the new measurements. But when you cannot have the real thing, as they say, there is always the sultan "shah" in the gulf.

News about Oman appears with increasing frequency in the Western press. Now there are reports of a visit there by another group of U.S. "experts". Then it is the question of U.S. Air Force use of the Oman island of Al-Masirah, to which American plans assign the role of connecting link with the base on Diego Garcia Island in the Indian Ocean. Or they write about Pentagon plans to create military bases on the Oman coast. Or, as recently, there are reports on the visit to Oman of British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington and the impending visit of U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown. The little sultan felt at the height of his glory and, most important, he felt "secure..." But not for nothing have sober-minded Arab politicians repeatedly observed that, if a threat to the Persian Gulf emanates from anywhere it is only from the United States, which is hurriedly stepping up its military presence in this region.

That is what has happened: A few days ago the American administration stated that the United States intends to mine the entrance to the Persian Gulf (read: the Hormuz Strait--A.K.) as soon as the Pentagon's military preparations in this region are completed.

I recall that the sultan, fearing that some "hostile force" would mine the Hormuz Strait, intended to engage in "minesweeping." On to work, "Your Majesty"!

TUNISIA, LIBYA URGED 'TO KEEP COOL' TO ELIMINATE TENSION

LD051534 Moscow in French to North Africa 2000 GMT 4 Feb 80 LD

[Andrey Nikolayev commentary]

[Text] Alarming reports are arriving from North Africa. Following the Qafsah events the Tunisian Government has decided to recall its ambassador from Tripoli and to expel the Libyan ambassador. According to TAP, the state of relations between Tunisia and Libya makes it impossible to maintain their respective representations at the previous level. The Tunisian Government has also decided to close the Libyan cultural center in Tunis and to suspend the activity of the Tunisian cultural center in Tripoli. The Libyan Foreign Affairs Secretariat has released a statement expressing its surprise and embarrassment at the decisions taken by the Tunisian Government. The statement says that the Foreign Affairs Secretariat of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah sees no reason for such acts likely to affect the development of relations between the two fraternal countries. It outlines that Libya has nothing to do with the events in Qafsah and expresses the hope to see the Tunisian authorities refrain from further proceeding on a line which serves solely the interests of the enemies of Tunisia and Libya and contributes to encouraging the interference of foreign forces in the conflict.

One notes that the Qafsah incident could be exploited by specific circles seeking to further aggravate the situation in the Magreb, already feeling the strain of the conflict in Western Sahara. Several Moroccan press organs have accused Algeria of being implicated in these events. Rejecting these accusations, the Algerian paper ASH-SHA'B speaks about the well-known firm and constructive position of Algeria, based on the principles of neighborliness and coexistence of regimes with different ideologies. The paper underlines that the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria has never applied a policy of expansion nor has it tried to benefit from the internal difficulties of neighboring fraternal countries tries. The aggravation of Tunisian-Libyan relations is inconsistent with the national interests of the peoples and countries which have to resolve important development tasks. It is inadmissible that a fresh hotbed of tension should be formed in North Africa. This would play into the hands of imperialist forces which have interests in dividing the fraternal Arab peoples and in finding an excuse to interfere in their domestic affairs. It has already been reported that warships of the former mother country have been seen off the Tunisian coast. The Parisian LE MATIN indicates that the French presence in the Mediterranean and in Tunisian territory is now beyond any doubt. For its part, the U.S. administration has informed Tunisia that it has extended to it limited arms aid.

The Soviet Union proceeds from the fact that in the contemporary world contentious questions and differences between states should be settled peacefully through talks in keeping with the norms of international relations, the requirements of the strengthening of peace, mutual understanding and cooperation among peoples. Such is also the attitude of the Soviet side to the complications of the Tunisian-Libyan relations. It is in the interest of these two fraternal countries to keep cool and be serious in order to jointly eliminate the causes of tension. All the more so since both of them are already experienced in eliminating differences. Remember, for instance, the settling of the dispute over the continental shelf. One would like to hope to see the leaders of Tunisia and Libya manifest political wisdom and succeed in normalizing relations between them. This would be consistent with the interests of their respective peoples, and those of maintaining and consolidating peace in North Africa.

PRAVDA REPORTS LEADERS' ELECTION SPEECHES

Demichev's Yaroslavl Speech

LD051049 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Feb 80 p 2 LD

[TASS report under the rubric "Working People's Election Meetings": "Time of Great Achievements. Voters' Meeting With P.N. Demichev"]

[Text] Socialism has opened up broad access to cultural values for the working people. Socialist culture is exerting increasing influence on molding a comprehensively developed individual and on society's progress. This was noted 31 January at the meeting of the voters of Yaroslavl City's Kirovskiy Electoral Okrug with their candidate for the RSFSR Supreme Soviet--Petr Nilovich Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture.

The Soviet people are marching toward the elections under the sign of the consolidation of our society's moral and political unity and monolithic cohesion around the Leninist Communist Party.

The meeting participants elected with great enthusiasm an honorary presidium comprising the CPSU Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev.

Urging voters to vote unanimously on election day for the candidates of the inviolable bloc of Communists and nonparty people, RSFSR people's artist V.V. Kuzmin--the candidate's agent--main director of the F.G. Volkov Academy Theater, described P.N. Demichev's career.

The meeting's participants stated their complete support for the domestic and foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state and the desire of Yaroslavl's people to mark the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth with new labor achievements. This was spoken of by I.A. Tolstoukhov, first secretary of the CPSU Gorkom, who opened the meeting; G.F. Olkhovik, fitter at a diesel apparatus plant; Prof L.V. Sretenskiy, rector of Yaroslavl State University; A.P. Parfenov, general director of the Yaroslavrezinotekhnika Production Association; and T.N. Pegashova, first secretary of Kirovskiy Raykom. The speakers stressed the determination of the city's labor collectives to successfully fulfill the targets of the concluding year and the 5-year plan as a whole.

P.N. Demichev, who was warmly greeted by the meeting's participants, delivered a speech. Expressing gratitude to the voters of Kirovskiy Okrug, who have nominated him as candidate RSFSR Supreme Soviet deputy, he declared that he attributes the lofty trust shown in him entirely to the Leninist party, the CPSU Central Committee and its Politburo headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, the outstanding politician of our time.

It is pleasant for me to convey from Leonid Ilich Brezhnev wholehearted greetings to all Yaroslavl's people and wishes for new labor successes in fulfilling the communist building plans, P.N. Demichev said.

The meeting participants greeted these words with tumultuous, prolonged applause.

Since the CPSU Central Committee October (1964) Plenum, the candidate deputy went on to say, our Soviet motherland, consistently guided by Lenin's course, has made great headway in all spheres of socioeconomic life, in developing culture and science, in raising the people's prosperity and in strengthening the country's defense and international positions.

Leonid Ilich's tireless activity in the name of the highest interests of the party and country and in the name of the people have everywhere won him the highest respect. That is why Soviet people have named Comrade L.I. Brezhnev as their first candidate deputy.

Extremely important events have occurred in our society's life since the last elections. The adoption of the new USSR Constitution holds a special place among them. The building of mature socialism and adoption of the new fundamental law mean a further expansion of the rights of Soviet citizens and local organs of power and the still more active involvement of working people in running the state. The USSR Constitution really embodies true social equality for all citizens and a new type of social relations ruling out any forms of social oppression and exploitation.

On the threshold of the elections the people's deputies are reporting to voters, summing up the results of the work that has been done and outlining prospects. The present election campaign is taking place at an important stage of our people's struggle to fulfill the socioeconomic program adopted by the 25th CPSU Congress.

Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's profound and principled speech at the CPSU Central Committee November (1979) Plenum made a comprehensive analysis of the successes achieved in the first 4 years of the 5-year plan, of the new problems and tasks facing the country in the concluding year of the 5-year plan, and of the more distant prospects for developing the country's national economy.

Many problems of management and of improving the economic mechanism are emerging in new terms at the present time, when the scale of the socioeconomic tasks we are solving has increased considerably, when we have come to lead the world in the production of the most important types of output and when we are creating and developing dozens of territorial production complexes and carrying out large-scale transformations over enormous territories such as the RSFSR Nonchernozem Zone.

P.N. Demichev dwelled on the main tasks of national economic guilding in 1980 and noted the RSFSR's important role in resolving them. More than 520-industrial enterprises were commissioned in the republic in the first 4 years of the 5-year plan.

The mobilization of all forces to fulfill the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1979) Plenum and the Supreme Soviet sessions, the development of socialist competition everywhere, the careful analysis and wide dissemination of leading experience, the utilization of all internal reserves, and concentration on questions of raising efficiency and quality--those are the key directions of work that will make it possible to insure fulfillment and overfulfillment of the plan for the concluding year of the 10th 5-Year Plan, to celebrate the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth with fitting labor victories and to create a reliable basis for arriving at the 26th CPSU Congress with new achievements.

In Yaroslavl and Yaroslavskaya Oblast, the speaker continued, there are many leading collectives that are bearing aloft the banner of socialist competition and are successfully solving the tasks of the technical refitting of production and the improvement of efficiency and quality.

The 10th 5-Year Plan has produced many true production innovators and shock workers in socialist competition. More than 1,600 collectives and 25,000 workers and Yaroslavskaya Oblast have pledged to complete their 5-year targets by the Lenin jubilee.

The further we advance toward communism, the candidate deputy noted, the more the broad masses join in the solution of statewide tasks and the administration of economic and cultural building. Soviet society is a society of true democracy and the working person is its master. Under the conditions of developed socialism there is a particular increase in the role of each person's consciousness and civic responsibility for the country's affairs.

The CPSU Central Committee has adopted a resolution "On Further Improving Ideological and Political-Educational Work." This resolution has exerted and is exerting an increasingly effective influence on improving the whole ideological education system. The report delivered by M.A. Suslov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the All-Union Conference of Ideological Workers held in October 1979 summed up the first results of work to fulfill the CPSU Central Committee resolution, provides a detailed analysis of ideological education tasks under present conditions and clearly defines ways of resolving them. The conference directed ideological cadres to strengthen the businesslike, specific approach and effectiveness of propaganda and agitation, their link with life, their militant attacking nature and their party passion and to mold in all Soviet people an advanced world outlook, pride in our socialist homeland and a lofty sense of proletarian internationalism.

Socialist culture plays an increased role in resolving current social tasks, raising the masses' consciousness and molding the new man. The formation of Soviet people's labor culture, political culture and everyday life and leisure culture is indissolubly connected with improving the work of cultural institutions and creating major works of art that exert an effective influence on the broad masses' consciousness and mold active life stances.

In recent years the Party Central Committee and Soviet Government have adopted a number of resolutions aimed at further developing and improving cultural institutions' work, the people's artistic creativity and professional art. Our country's cultural workers and creative intelligentsia are well aware of the responsible tasks facing them. They are rallied closely around the Leninist Central Committee and highly value the party's concern and trust. They received with great satisfaction Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's greetings message to the All-Union Conference of Cultural Workers.

Under the conditions of developed socialism, the speaker stressed, increasingly favorable conditions are created for revealing Soviet people's capabilities and talents and for the harmonious development of the individual. Extensive cultural building is being carried out in our country, and new theaters, movie theaters, circuses, musical institutions, clubs and houses of culture, museums and libraries are being created.

The RSFSR now has about 62,000 mass libraries, 77,000 club establishments, 320 professional theaters, and more than 88,000 movie projection units that charge for showings. The Republic is a great cultural force.

Yaroslavl and Yaroslavskaya Oblast occupy an important place in the country's cultural life. In recent years more than 20 palaces and houses of culture and clubs, 5 libraries, the Polet concert and sports complex in Rybinsk, the Lazurnyy water palace in Yaroslavl and the powerful Volga radio and television station have been constructed here. The F.G. Volkov theater, the oldest Russian drama theater, whose Jubilee was recently celebrated by the whole country, operates fruitfully here. The creation under the F.G. Volkov Theater of a theater school (VUZ) is turning Yaroslavl into an important center for training cadres of theater workers.

The tasks of communist building and the exacerbation of the ideological struggle in the world arena demand of artists an increasingly penetrating analysis of the social processes of our time, the truthful, highly artistic portrayal of the modern hero--the builder of communism--an increasingly bold treatment of the complex and urgent problems of our time, and the resolute surmounting of the existing tendencies in some quarters to retreat into petty themes, make superficial judgments of the present and present distorted ideas of the past.

The Soviet intelligentsia is well aware that socialism is a society where each person's talent flourishes and all the conditions exist for that. That is why the Soviet intelligentsia and all Soviet people condemn those who grovel before bourgeois culture and are prepared to sell their motherland for dollars. These renegades--and there is literally only a handful of them--are pawns in the dirty game of current reactionary forces and deserve only the people's contempt.

P.N. Demichev proceeded to dwell on topical questions of the international situation. The Soviet Union, he said, is the vanguard force of world social development and the reliable bastion of peace and social progress. The fraternal socialist countries and the developing countries that have adopted a socialist orientation march along shoulder to shoulder with us. The forces of social progress have won important victories in the struggle against reaction in recent years.

The Soviet Union marches in the vanguard of the struggle for peace and international security. Our country is the author of major initiatives in the international arena which are aimed at insuring lasting peace and security of the peoples, ending the arms race and consolidating and further developing the processes of detente.

U.S. reactionary circles have recently taken a number of actions to wreck the detente process.

Reactionary American imperialist circles and the military-industrial complex, which is interested in making superprofits from the arms race, are setting themselves the goal of changing the prevailing equilibrium of forces and securing military superiority in order to dictate their will to the peoples of the world.

In his answers to the PRAVDA correspondent's questions Comrade L.I. Brezhnev made an exhaustive analysis of the present international situation.

Our international aid to the friendly Afghan people is in complete accordance with the Soviet-Afghan treaty and the UN Charter. Reaction's schemes aimed at stifling the Afghan revolution and creating an imperialist military springboard on our country's southern border have been thwarted. It is precisely those circles that shamelessly trample on international accords and agreements that have begun accusing us of some sort of "violations" of the norms of international behavior. Moreover, they are trying to blackmail us with threats and sanctions. However, no external pressure or blackmail can alter the Soviet Union's principled, internationalist course.

Nor will we deviate from the principled Leninist course aimed at detente and at strengthening peace. The implementation of the policy of peaceful coexistence among states with different social systems demands the firm political will for disarmament and resolute opposition to cold war forces.

The present Beijing leaders have adopted imperialist methods and hegemonist claims. The military aggression against Vietnam, the active support for NATO aggressive circles, the desire to form a bloc with imperialist forces, the anti-Soviet propaganda campaign--all that exposes the Beijing leaders as enemies of peace and the peoples' freedom.

There can be no doubt, the speaker declared, that the reactionary course of reviving the cold war will meet with growing resistance from the world's peoples and has no historical future.

We look to the future with optimism. We have every reason to. The Soviet people now have powerful industry, developed agriculture and firm defense might. They are equipped with advanced science and technology. They are working under the conditions of the most advanced social system and developed socialist democracy. Their historic path is illuminated by the scientific revolutionary theory--Marxism-Leninism--and the advanced communist ideals. They are led forward by a vanguard proven and tempered in the political battles of our time and possessing extremely rich historical experience--the CPSU, the great Lenin's party. The Soviet motherland, P.N. Demichev said in conclusion, has greeted the seventies in the prime of its might. The source of our motherland's strength is the indissoluble unity of party and people. There can be no doubt that the upcoming elections to the organs of people's power will once again demonstrate the unity of party and people and will insure decisive victory for the bloc of Communists and non-party people.

P.N. Demichev visited the diesel apparatus and Mashpribor plants and the intersectorial territorial scientific and technical information center and acquainted himself with the work of cultural institutions. Meetings were held with the party, soviet, economic and ideological aktiv and cultural and artistic workers. There was discussion of the questions of the fulfillment of the plans of the concluding year of the 5-year plan by the oblast's working people and the organization of socialist competition for a fitting greeting of the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth, and topical problems of cultural building under present conditions.

Shevardnadze at Rukhskiy Okrug

LD051627 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 80 p 2 LD

[TASS report under the rubric "Working People's Preelection Meetings": "Strong Through Leninist Friendship: Voters' Meeting with E.A. Shevardnadze"]

[Text] Closely rallied around the Communist Party, the Georgian working people are marching to the elections to the republic's confidence that all the heights outlined by the party and people will be scaled.

The Palace of Culture of the Sakartvelo Kolkhoz, Rukhi village, Zugdidskiy Rayon, was festively arrayed. On 29 January a meeting was held here between the voters of Rukhskiy Electoral Okrug and Eduard Amvrosiyevich Shevardnadze, candidate deputy of the Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee.

Those taking part in the meeting unanimously elected an honorary presidium comprising the CPSU Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev.

I. T. Todua, first secretary of the Zugdidskiy Raykom, who presided, gave the floor to the agent--T.N. Patsatsiya, animal specialist from Rike village kolkhoz. He described the career and labor activity of the candidate deputy and urged all the okrug's voters on election day to vote unanimously for the domestic and foreign policy of the CPSU and Soviet state.

The lofty and crucial tasks facing the Zugdidskiy Rayon communists and all workers were mentioned at the meeting by Z. L. Todua, chairman of the board of the Sakartvelo Kolkhoz, Rukhi village; G. D. Chaginava, tea grower at this farm; M. G. Kodua, student at the Zeda-Etseri Agricultural Technical College; P. N. Ryabokon, hog raiser at the Zeda-Etseri Sovkhoz-Technical College; and V. V. Nachkebiya, director of the Rukhi secondary school.

Expressing the feelings and thoughts of their fellow-countrymen, the speakers stressed that the Georgian working people, like all Soviet people, wholly and fully support the CPSU's domestic and foreign policy and warmly approve the activity of the Leninist Central Committee and its Politburo headed by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev. The speakers mentioned the beneficial force of the Leninist friendship of the peoples of our multinational motherland. They expressed thanks to the party and government for their purposeful activity aimed at strengthening peace on earth and creating favorable conditions for constructive creative labor. Those taking part in the meeting stressed the determination of the republic's working people to greet the 110th anniversary of V. I. Lenin's birth with new achievements and to insure the unconditional fulfillment of the targets of the 10th 5-Year Plan.

Those taking part in the meeting warmly welcomed E. A. Shevardnadze, who delivered a speech. Our party has boundless trust in the candidates of the indestructible bloc of Communists and nonparty people, he stressed. The honor and trust which the voters and all working people place in the candidate deputies is honor and trust for Lenin's party of communists.

At the election meetings the working people of all republics, including the Georgian SSR, have unanimously named as their first candidate Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, that outstanding figure of the CPSU and Soviet state, ardent fighter for peace and communism and loyal continuer of the cause of the great Lenin.

This manifested the boundless love, gratitude and respect of the Soviet people and each Soviet person for Leonid Ilich Brezhnev--the standard-bearer and leader of Lenin's party. The people are profoundly grateful for the multifaceted, titanic activity which Comrade L. I. Brezhnev is conducting in the interests of the further economic and social flourishing of our motherland, the strengthening of its defense capability, the consolidation of peace throughout the world and the assertion of the ideas of the peoples' friendship and fraternity--the ideas of internationalism. The present election campaign, the speaker went on to say, is notable primarily for the fact that it is taking place in the concluding year of the 5-year plan, under conditions of the widespread nationwide competition for a fitting greeting to the 110th anniversary of V. I. Lenin's birth.

The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1979) Plenum and Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's speech at the plenum clearly defined the key avenues along which the party and people must work to fulfill successfully the plans for 1980 and the 5-year plan as a whole and to implement the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress.

The working people of Soviet Georgia, as they march toward the elections to the republic's Supreme Soviet, are reporting to the party, people and motherland their new labor achievements in implementing the historic decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress. They warmly, wholly and fully support the party's Leninist course. They give assurances that they will mark with new labor victories the concluding year of the 10th 5-Year Plan --the 5-year plan of efficiency and quality--and provide a fitting greeting for the 26th CPSU Congress.

As they approach the elections to the supreme soviets of the Georgian SSR, Abkhazskaya ASSR and Adzharskaya ASSR and the local soviets, the republic's working people are expressing profound thanks to the party and government for their high assessment of their labor; for the sixth consecutive time the republic has been awarded the Challenge Red Banner of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU, and Komsomol Central Committee for high achievements in all-union socialist competition.

The election campaign in the republic is taking place under the sign of the daily growing labor and political activeness of the masses and the monolithic cohesion of all working people, nations and ethnic groups inhabiting the republic around the CPSU and the CPSU Central Committee and Politburo headed by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, the first candidate of all the people.

The imperialists and enemies of peace and socialism, and the enemies of detente and stability are seeking to plunge the peoples into cold war again. The CPSU's domestic and foreign policy is the only correct, scientifically substantiated, comprehensively weighed, truly Leninist policy, active and attacking in essence, and one that really asserts favorable conditions for detente, peace and progress. It is a realistic policy for a country of real socialism. This policy undoubtedly reflects the class interests of our state and of the entire socialist community.

Our party has firmly and unconditionally pursued and continues to pursue a peaceful international policy based on the principles of peaceful coexistence among states with different social systems elaborated by the great Lenin, the principles of proletarian internationalism and solidarity with our class brothers throughout the world and of cooperation with all progressive forces of the world. Soviet people have never forgotten the revolutionary mission history imposed on us.

The policy pursued by the CPSU reliably safeguards the security of our sacred state borders and our motherland's inviolability.

Against the background of the complex processes taking place in today's troubled world, the background of the attempts of international reaction, speaking to us in the language of the cold war times, the communists and working people of Soviet Georgia will struggle still more selflessly for the unconditional fulfillment of their patriotic and internationalist duty--to increase by every means the republic's contribution to the development of the all-union economy and culture and the consolidation of the economic might and defense capability of our multinational fatherland. In Soviet Georgia, E. A. Shevardnadze noted, preparation for the elections has coincided with the implementation of the CPSU Central Committees' historic decisions for our republic--the decisions on the Tbilisi Gorkom and the Georgian party organization and the further development of the republic's national economy which were adopted at the initiative of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev and marking a new stage in the development of our economy and culture, and which created optimum conditions for the working people's more effective participation in the all-union division of labor.

Much has been done but we are not satisfied with what has been achieved so far. New horizons and lofty new heights lie ahead.

This year the republic's working people will achieve the greatest increase in industrial production in the entire 10th 5-Year Plan--8.4 percent. The volume of industrial output will increase 41 percent over the 5-year plan. Labor productivity will increase 6.6 percent this year and 83 percent of the increase in industrial production will be obtained by this means. Return on investment will increase 1 percent and the proportion of articles bearing the seal of quality will increase to 21 percent.

The 5-year program of construction and installation work will be completed by the 63d anniversary of Great October and the annual plan by 26 December. All units of the unique high-arch Ingurskaya GES hydraulic complex, the third section of the Vartsikhskaya GES cascade and new capacities at the Rustavi chemical plant, the Zestafoni ferrous alloys plant and other 5-year plan projects nearing completion will be commissioned.

Over the 10th 5-Year Plan the growth in the average annual gross agricultural production output will be 34 percent as against 29 percent envisaged by the 5-year plan target.

The material prosperity and cultural living standard of the republic's working people will improve considerably.

Bright prospects are opened up before Soviet Georgia for economic and social development in the 11th and 12th 5-year plans and for the forseeable future. These are all the fruit of the CPSU's Leninist nationalities policy, the fruit of the Soviet way of life, of proletarian, socialist internationalism and the Leninist friendship of the peoples--the greatest achievements of October. This is all the result of the truly Leninist concern of the CPSU Central Committee, the Politburo and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev personally for Soviet Goergia and for all the country's union republics.

The Georgian working people send heartfelt thanks to the party, Politburo and Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev for the wise Leninist domestic and foreign policy of the land of the soviets and voice the conviction that the forthcoming elections to the union republic supreme soviets will show the whole world the undisputed advantages of our system and the triumph of socialist democracy, and of the economy and culture of mature, developed socialism.

Then the speaker dwelled in detail on the successes in developing Georgia's industry and agriculture. Thus, in 1979 alone the republic's industry produced over and above the plan articles worth R113 million. The volume of production by comparison with previous years increased 7.2 percent. As a whole in the first 4 years of the 5-year plan industrial output in the republic increased 30.1 percent as against the 26.1 percent according to the 5-year plan. In 1979 the republic's industry made a considerable contribution to the satisfaction of the demand for industrial and technical articles and consumer goods.

The development of Georgia's industry in 1976-1979 was characterized by the further increase of production efficiency. Labor productivity rose 22.2 percent and 82 percent of the increase in gross output was obtained by this means. Some 18 percent of articles in the total production volume are now produced with the state seal of quality.

The achievements of Georgia's tea, citrus and grape growers are particularly significant. For the first time in the history of the republic's agriculture over 453,000 tons of high-quality leaf tea, 263,000 tons of citrus fruit, and 577,000 tons of grapes have been procured. Definite progress also began to appear in the development of stock-raising.

Last year apartment blocks with an area of over 1 million square meters were commissioned. New schools, vocational and technical colleges, kindergartens, hospitals, and trade and consumer service enterprises were commissioned.

The course toward improving the people's material welfare is consistently steered. The per capita income of the republic's population in 1979 increased 19.6 percent by comparison with 1975 as against the 14.7 percent envisaged by the 5-year plan.

The average wages of workers and employees in the national economy increased 16.4 percent over the first 4 years of the 5-year plan while the labor remuneration of kolkhoz members increased 34.2 percent, which is far higher than envisaged by the 5-year plan.

The candidate deputy devoted a considerable part of his speech to the tasks of the working people of Georgia in the concluding year of the 5-year plan whose solution will make it possible to create a firm foundation for the 11th 5-Year Plan. They include the more resolute and bolder introduction of the achievements of science and technology into production, the reduction of unproductive losses, and the further improvement of production efficiency and work quality.

Zugdidskiy Rayon is one of the most important leaf tea producing rayons in the republic. Proceeding from the tasks defined by the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution on increasing the production of southern and subtropical crops and on the accelerated development of the republic's agriculture, in the immediate term as much as 700,000 tons of leaf tea must be produced in Georgia. Zugdidskiy Rayon accounts for almost one-seventh. This confronts its workers with the need to increase areas sown to this crop and to introduce in every way possible the mechanization of the process of tending plantations and harvesting leaf tea. In fact everything must be done to put tea growing and citrus fruit growing to an industrial footing and to achieve the point where guaranteed harvests are obtained.

The solution of the tasks facing us, the speaker stressed, requires not only the appropriate material and technical base but also the further improvement of the standard of ideological-political work, an implacable struggle against negative phenomena and the formation of the new man--the builder of communism.

Since the adoption of the CPSU Central Committee resolution on the Tbilisi Gorkom, the Georgian party organization under the Central Committee's leadership has mounted a plan-governed principled struggle against harmful vestiges of the past in people's daily life and consciousness which cause great material and moral damage to socialist society.

An important and effective means of struggling against harmful vestiges of the past alien to socialism and against antipodal phenomena is the systematic study and consideration of public opinion in the activity of party and state organs.

The Georgian CP Central Committee Public Opinion Council has carried out a special study of questions of the essence of private ownership tendencies; the reasons they emerge, and wsys of overcoming them. The study showed that the working people unanimously support the course taken by the republic toward the complete normalization of the moral-psychological climate and the implacable struggle against phenomena antipodal to our society and stress the significant improvements which have come about in this direction.

For the communists and all working people of the republic the year 1980 is the year for verifying the execution of the party's most important decisions and for rallying even more closely around Lenin's party and its Central Committee.

The local party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol organizations must intensify their aid to the election commissions and seek their coordinated and efficient operation.

There are no minor or secondary matters in the election campaign: Everything requires great exactitude and profound interest. The mood of our voters, the appearance of our cities and villages and the state of the municipal, trade, consumer and medical services enjoyed by the population are of great importance. These and other questions need special attention.

In conclusion E.A. Shevardnadze said:

The party's election campaign is a program for the entire Soviet people's work and struggle. Its fulfillment depends on the purposeful and organized work of each of us.

The elections are the verification of the political maturity and combat capability of the party and soviet organs and public organizations. The election campaign is, as it were, an examination of our abilities and potential.

Ponomarev Speech at Saratov

LD061059 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Feb 80 p 3 LD

[TASS report under the rubric "Working People's Election Meetings": "Following an Unshakable Course of Peace. Voters' Meeting With B.N. Ponomarev"]

[Text] The socialist community's strengthening might and steadily growing prestige enable the Soviet Union, along with the fraternal countries, to defend increasingly resolutely its positions in the world arena and to implement consistently the course of insuring peace and of detente and disarmament. This unshakable course accords with the interests of all the world's peoples.

The participants in the 4 February meeting between the voters of Saratov's Zavodskiy Electoral Okrug and their candidate for the RSFSR Supreme Soviet--Boris Nikolayevich Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee--state their wholehearted approval of and support for the Leninist peace-loving foreign policy of the CPSU and Soviet state.

The meeting participants elected with great enthusiasm an honorary presidium comprising the CPSU Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev.

I.K. Gerasimchuk, first secretary of Zavodskiy Raykom, who opened the meeting; A.I. Krivokhizhin, director of an aviation plant; N.A. Shambur, leader of a bricklaying team in Saratovkhimtyazhstroy Trust No 1; N.A. Koryabina, director of secondary school No 84; and V.M. Teremin, driver in a Komsomol and young people's team in a passenger motor transport production association, noted that labor collectives are persistently implementing the party's course of increasing production efficiency and work quality.

Hero of Socialist Labor M.D. Gorbunov, leader of a team of fitters in a bearing plant and the candidate's agent, told of B.N. Ponomarev's life and activity.

A speech was delivered by B.N. Ponomarev, who was warmly greeted by the meeting participants. Elections to the organs of people's power, he said, are an event of great sociopolitical importance. Soviet people are going into the elections as a united, multinational family in the inviolable bloc of Communists and nonparty people. The present election campaign is being held in the concluding year of the 10th 5-Year Plan and in the atmosphere of nationwide competition for a fitting greeting to the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth. It demonstrates once again the unshakable unity of party and people and Soviet people's cohesion around the Communist Party, its Central Committee and the Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, that loyal continuer of Lenin's cause and outstanding politician and statesman of our time.

The Soviet people can see for themselves that our party's leadership and all party organizations from top to bottom are dedicating all their thoughts and devoting all their energy to serving the people, developing the economy, increasing prosperity and culture, strengthening the country's defense and defending world peace. And the people respond to this with boundless trust in the party, support its domestic and foreign policy and struggle tirelessly for it. The nomination of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, as the first candidate in all the union republics was an expression of the nationwide love of and trust in the beloved party. Our people and the broad working people's masses in other countries highly value Leonid Ilich's tireless, selfless activity for the consolidation of peace, the peoples' security and the cause of socialism. They express to him their profound respect and cordial gratitude.

To tumultuous applause, B.N. Ponomarev conveyed to the people of Saratov cordial greetings and the best wishes from Comrade L.I. Brezhnev and the party Central Committee.

In the first 4 years of the 10th 5-Year Plan our motherland has made substantial headway in every avenue of economic, social and cultural development. Soviet people's selfless labor has laid a reliable foundation for the scaling of new heights in creating the material and technical base of communism.

While noting with satisfaction the successes achieved the party also points out the existing difficulties. These were the subject of keen and profound discussion at the CPSU Central Committee November (1979) Plenum, whose work was permeated by the spirit of constructive criticism and the determination to focus efforts on surmounting shortcomings. The plenum demanded that monitoring of the fulfillment of plan targets and adopted decisions be strengthened, that cadres' responsibility be heightened and that, as Comrade L.I. Brezhnev stressed, "an atmosphere of high exactingness, organization and a creative attitude to work be created in all sectors of the national economy and in every production unit." Party, soviet and economic cadres and all the working people were equipped with an understanding of the specific urgent tasks and were precisely oriented toward insuring the steady upsurge of the national economy and raising in every possible way work efficiency and the quality of all types of output.

The candidate stressed the fundamental importance of last year's CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolutions on improving the economic mechanism and the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On Further Improving Ideological and Political Education Work" for resolving Soviet society's current and program tasks.

Our country has confidently entered the new decade. The Soviet people are preparing for the new 5-year plan which will be yet another big step toward implementing the ideals of communism. It is important for all labor collectives to remember that the level of production this year will be the base that will determine the 11th 5-Year Plan targets. And so all working people should be oriented toward multiplying their efforts to fulfill the 1980 plan.

The socialist competition for a fitting greeting to the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth is expected to play a great role in this. The party Central Committee has urged Soviet people to mark this jubilee with shock Leninist work in the concluding year of the 5-year plan. Saratov's people, along with all the people, have responded wholeheartedly to the party's call. More than 70,000 workers in the oblast have pledged to fulfill the 5-year plan by 22 April 1980.

Referring to the successes of working people in the oblast and Zavodskiy Rayon, the speaker stressed that they must not obscure the existing shortcomings. In order to overcome these it is necessary to improve organizational and political education work by all communists, to increase labor discipline, to eliminate time-wasting in production and to make more rational use of manpower resources.

B.N. Ponomarev's speech paid great attention to international issues. Since the Soviet state was founded, he stressed, our foreign policy has had as a paramount goal the defense of the people's socialist gains against any external encroachments, and the strengthening of peace. It is this that determines the Communist Party's international course, which was comprehensively substantiated and precisely formulated at the party congresses and enshrined in the Soviet Constitution. We regard it as an integral part of the struggle for communism. As Comrade L.I. Brezhnev again stressed recently, "no one will deflect us" from our internationalist, peace-loving course.

The years since the last RSFSR Supreme Soviet election have reaffirmed with the utmost clarity just how weighty is our country's contribution to strengthening peace and international security and preventing another world war. If one were to highlight the main thing we have done in this period, one could say this: The Soviet Union has struggled actively and energetically for the goals formulated in the peace program put forward by the 24th CPSU Congress and developed by the 25th congress. As a result it was possible in the second half of the seventies to advance much of what had been begun at the start of last decade and to create substantial groundwork for progress toward lasting peace.

The past few years, the candidate deputy said, have also been characterized by an upsurge of the world revolutionary process and the development and strengthening of the international communist movement. Imperialism is reluctant to reconcile itself to this. It is fiercely seeking to stop the inexorable march of history and is again--in keeping with its aggressive nature--turning to force and to the buildup and display of military might.

B.N. Ponomarev dwelt in detail on a description of the foreign policy "Carter doctrine," stressing that Washington is rashly toying with the fate of peace in seeking to undermine detente and spur on the arms race. There can be no doubt, the speaker said, that the same fate suffered by the doctrines of this President's predecessors lies in store for this new "doctrine."

A firm and strictly considered response to the dangerous turnabout in American imperialism's policy was provided in Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's answers to the PRAVDA correspondent's questions.

The speaker dwelt in detail on events in Afghanistan and the attempts by imperialism and reactionary forces to stifle the Afghan revolution. The United States and its accomplices clearly aimed to use Afghanistan for military advantures and provocations against the USSR and to site bases there. But these hopes have been dashed. That is why the United States and its accomplices are today so furious.

There is no "aggression" against Afghanistan, as American propaganda and Beijing propaganda--which completely alines itself with it--trumpet. The Soviet Union did not "occupy" that country or "usurp" power in Kabul. Small troop contingents have been moved into Afghanistan at the request of the country's lawful government, which has repeatedly stated this publicly for all the world to hear. And they will be withdrawn as soon as the encroachments on Afghanistan's borders and state sovereignty cease.

The sole purpose of the temporary presence of Soviet contingents in Afghanistan is to help a neighboring country's government, in accordance with the treaty that exists between our two states, to defend its sovereignty and independence against imperialist external interference.

The Afghan authorities and the Afghan population display a friendly attitude toward the Soviet servicemen. No clashes are taking place between Afghans and our soldiers, as all kinds of "voices" unscrupulously and long-windedly claim.

The Soviet Union in not interfering in Afghanistan's internal affairs in the slightest. Afghanistan is living by its own laws and norms, and its government itself determines its own national policy. Exclusively Afghan citizens work in the whole structure of state and administrative power organs that is operating in a completely sovereign fashion from top to bottom. The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and government institutions are headed by people long known to their country's people as fighters for the people's interests.

Afghanistan's Government pursues an independent foreign policy, a policy of peace and nonalinement, and seeks to develop relations with all countries, primarily neighboring countries, on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence and noninterference in one another's affairs.

Events in Afghanistan in absolutely no way affect U.S. state interests. Incidentally, no one in Washington has ever dared explain to Americans just what specific U.S. national interests have been affected in Afghanistan, as the press and official circles demagogically and long-windedly assert.

The Soviet Union has no self-seeking aspirations in Afghanistan, or anywhere else. We do not set ourselves the aim of seizing foreign lands or sources of raw materials or imposing on anyone a sociopolitical structure we like. We do not threaten either Pakistan or Iran and we are not hankering to reach the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean, as bourgeois and Chinese propaganda maliciously clamor. We do not affect the interests of any country at all.

Thus the facts show that it is not the Soviet Union but American imperialism--which had, even before, adopted a course of exacerbating the international situation--that has now taken advantage of events in Afghanistan to work to undermine detente and create confrontation under conditions of an arms buildup.

The United States has canceled [perecherkuuli] many treaty [dogovoruyy] commitments and is trying to speak the language of ultimatums to the USSR. It goes without saying that the attempts to use cold war methods to foist on the Soviet Union rules of conduct convenient to imperialism, to blackmail and intimidate us and to interfere crudely in our affairs are doomed to failure. We know how to stand up for ourselves and we will defend in the most resolute way the gains, positions and honor of our country and the Soviet people, guided by the lofty and noble aims of the Leninist foreign policy.

Of course, we all realize that the situation in the international arena has deteriorated. However, Soviet people have no grounds for alarm or uncertainty. The cause of detente lives on. Even today there is every opportunity not only to thwart the dangerous schemes of Western aggressive circles and their Beijing accomplices but also to advance along the path of peace, security and social transformations. The forces of peace and progress have strengthened still more. This applies primarily to the community of socialist countries, enriched by the experience of the seventies, the effectiveness and scale of international solidarity among the communists of most world countries have increased. Talks were held recently in Moscow between a CPSU delegation headed by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and a delegation of one of the most authoritative communist parties in the capitalist West--the French--headed by party Secretary General Georges Marchais. The joint communique adopted on the basis of the results of the talks is an important political document of international significance.

The CPSU, B.N. Ponomarev said in conclusion, will continue persistently to pursue a policy of peace, detente, cooperation and mutual understanding among the peoples and to struggle for the prevention of another world war, against the arms race and for disarmament.

At the same time we will continue to strengthen our armed forces and to improve the military-political cooperation among the Warsaw Pact states. Our army has been, is and will always be the reliable shield of socialist gains and the guarantee of the inviolability and sanctity of our borders.

The CPSU will continue to seek to consolidate unity, cohesion and closer joint action with other countries' communist and workers parties in the spirit of internationalism and comradely solidarity and on the basis of the great ideas of Marx, Engels and Lenin.

This course expresses the interests of every Soviet person. It accords with the interests of all people on earth and the cause of world peace and the peoples' security and social progress. The guarantee of its successful implementation is our people's selfless labor. The better Soviet people work in industry and agriculture, the higher qualitative and quantitative indicators will be in every sphere of production, science and technology and the stronger our country will be. The stronger and more powerful the Soviet Union and socialist community are, the more durable peace and the peoples' security will be.

The election campaign is entering its final stage. It has taken the form of a nationwide survey of the Soviet people's labor achievements. Our successes are the result of the Leninist policy of the glorious Communist Party's Leninist policy, its correct ideas, its tireless organizational and educational work, its unshakable loyalty to Marxism-Leninism and its creative approach to revolutionary theory and practice.

B.N. Ponomarev visited a number of enterprises in Saratov and Engels. In the aviation plant shops and on the Engelsskiy Sovkhoz stockraising complex farmsteads he talked with workers, specialists and rural working people. An exchange of opinions took place with party, soviet and economic leaders of Saratov City and Oblast. The meetings and conversations touched on questions of raising production efficiency and work quality in the light of the CPSU Central Committee November (1979) Plenum decisions. Great attention was paid to working people's working and living conditions and the implementation of social measures in collectives.

Rusakov at Rostov

LD061053 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 80 p 2 LD

[TASS report under the rubric "Working People's Preelection Meetings": "For the Sake of the Fatherland, Peace and Socialism; Voters' Meeting with K.V. Rusakov"]

[Text] Preparation for the elections to the union and autonomous republic supreme soviets and the local soviets graphically demonstrates the nationwide support for the CPSU's Leninist policy and the Soviet state's tireless struggle for peace, international security and social progress and the indestructible unity of the party and people.

On 29 January a meeting was held in Rostov-na-Donu between the voters of Proletarskiy Electoral Okrug and Konstantin Viktorovich Rusakov, candidate deputy of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The meeting was opened by M.N. Ivanov, first secretary of the Proletariskiy CPSU Raykom.

Those assembled elected with great enthusiasm an honorary presidium comprising the CPSU Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev.

The candidate deputy's agent--Hero of Socialist Labor I.T. Polyakov, a gas generator operative at the Rabochiy combine--described K.V. Rusakov's life and activity and urged the voters on election day to give their votes unanimously for the candidates of the indestructible bloc of Communists and nonparty people.

P.M. Burlin, operator at the Oktyabrskaya Revolyutsiya chemical plant; Ye.I. Serova, actress at the M. Gorkiy drama theater and RSFSR state prize laureate; R.M. Naumov, chairman of the Krasnyy Aksay plant trade union committee; N.K. Malchuk, secretary of the sewn goods association Komsomol committee; and B.I. Golovets, first secretary of the Rostov-na-Donu CPSU Gorkom, who spoke at the meeting, said that the oblast's working people, like the entire Soviet people, fully approve and warmly support the foreign and domestic policy of the CPSU and Soviet state and are greeting the elections with high political and production activeness. [paragraph continues]

Launching socialist competition widely under the slogan "Working Without Laggards," the speakers noted, the Rostov people are directing all their energy and initiative toward fittingly greeting the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth and successfully fulfilling the targets of the concluding year and of the 5-year plan as a whole.

K.V. Rusakov, warmly greeted by those assembled, delivered a speech.

Warmly thanking the collectives of the enterprises of the Proletarskiy Electoral Okrug of Rostov-na-Donu which nominated him as their candidate deputy to the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, K.V. Rusakov stressed that he fully relates this trust to the Leninist Communist Party.

It is with great satisfaction, he said, that I am fulfilling an honorable assignment and conveying to you and all Don workers cordial greetings and wishes for your successes from Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev.

Those assembled greeted these words with tumultuous, prolonged applause.

In our country, the speaker continued, it has long been a firm tradition to link election campaigns organically with the interests of practical work. In assessing the path traveled in the intervening time between elections and attentively analyzing the present state of affairs, the party and Soviet people look ahead and are oriented toward lofty new heights in communist building. That is precisely how the election campaign is proceeding in all corners of our multinational motherland. And it is a very good thing that high political enthusiasm is being combined with proprietorial, critical talk about what must be done and how to complete the 10th 5-year plan successfully.

As a result of the Soviet people's large amount of strenuous labor in the time separating us from the previous elections to the union and autonomous republic supreme soviets and local soviets of people's deputies, the country has achieved considerable successes.

The working people of Rostov City and Rostovskaya Oblast are involved in the most direct manner in these achievements. The Don region is renowned in the country. This fame was created by generations of Rostov people who labored selflessly on the construction sites of the first 5-year plans and fought heroically during the Great Patriotic War and then, surmounting the consequences of the war's devastation, were able rapidly to boost industry and agriculture. The Don's visiting card now lists not only enterprises known throughout the country, like Rostselmash, Krasnyy Aksay, the Taganrog metallurgical plant and the Novocherkassy electric locomotive building plant, but also the Atommash plant. As in previous years, the motherland is entrusting the Rostov people with one of the most advanced sectors of scientific and technical progress.

The past year was particularly difficult for the Don agricultural workers. In general the weather conditions have really failed to cosset the Rostov people for the past 4 years. Nonetheless the oblast has been able to increase the average annual grain production by 19 percent compared with the level of the previous 5-year plan and the vegetable harvest has increased. Meat and milk production has increased somewhat on the public farms.

The labor not of thousands, not of tens of thousands but of hundres of thousands of workers, technicians, engineers, arable farmers, stock raisers and machine operators, in brief the labor of every urban and rural worker is incorporated in all these successes.

Concern for boosting industry and agriculture in our country, K. V. Rusakov stressed, is subordinated to the main concern--improving the working people's material prosperity and boosting culture, the health service, people's education, in a word everything which determines the people's living standard.

Recent years in the country's life have been marked by a tremendous amount of work in improving socialist statehood and further developing socialist democracy. On the basis of the new USSR Constitution considerable measures have rapidly been implemented to strengthen the entire democratic mechanism of our society.

In assessing the state of affairs, the party approaches the results achieved soberly and critically. Unfortunately so-called bottlenecks still persist in the national economy, and there are many of them. Although certain advances have been achieved in improving production efficiency and work quality--and this is a key task of the 5-year plan--advance has not proved as rapid as it might have been. There was principled discussion of all this at the CPSU Central Committee November (1979) Plenum.

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's speech at the plenum is a model of a realistic, profoundly scientific approach to the fundamental problems of the development of the Soviet economy. This speech contains a clear and precise plan for leading all echelons of the national economy to a new height. And of course special mention must be made of the atmosphere of exactingness and strict party exigence (spros), which was imparted to the work by Leonid Ilich's speech.

Our country possesses tremendous resources and a mighty economic potential, wonderful cadres of workers, engineers and scientists. We have enormous potential for confident growth and we will be able to achieve excellent results in all spheres if every person at every post is aware of his personal responsibility for the way matters go at his work station, in the collective, oblast and our entire country.

The candidate deputy paid considerable attention to foreign policy questions. Recently, he noted the international atmosphere has been markedly aggravated. The reactionary U.S. and NATO circles in unison with the Chinese hegemonists are stepping up their attacks on detente and seeking to cancel out everything good and constructive which has entered international life.

At the close of last year, as is well known, the NATO Council session, under U.S. pressure adopted the decision to produce new types of U.S. medium-range nuclear missile weapons and to deploy them on the territory of a number of West European states. Then the White House made public a plan for a considerable buildup in U.S. military might. Not content with the previous inglorious records set for military expenditure, President Carter is stating that his administration will increase the country's military budget by over 5 percent per year in real terms.

The attempts by imperialism and above all U.S. imperialism to interfere in the internal affairs of other states have been markedly activated. This was acutely manifested in connection with the anti-shah, anti-imperialist revolution in Iran.

Recently the U.S. intelligence services have been undertaking far-reaching steps to cancel out the gains of the Afghan revolution. Together with the Chinese hegemonists and Pakistan, they encouraged subversive activity against Afghanistan, setting themselves the aim of implanting there a regime which suits them.

Nor can we fail to treat most seriously the fact that a real alliance or partnership between the United States and China is being nailed together. Both U.S. and Chinese politicians are speaking for all to hear about "the coincidence of strategic interests" of the two countries and their parallel actions.

This entire chain of facts attests to the difficulties the detente process is encountering. But does that mean that the aggravation of the international situation is tantamount to the liquidation of detente, that we are reverting to the cold war times, if not to something worse? Of course not.

The U.S. administration's irresponsible steps--and calculations connected with the presidential struggle are obviously affecting its actions--are encountering a critical attitude even from certain of the United States' NATO partners. On the other hand, there is nothing new in attempts by the imp[illegible]ists to export counterrevolution. This policy has collapsed in the past and given t[illegible]esent correlation of world forces it is all the more doomed to failure. Well, the pressure and coercion directed at the Soviet Union are ultimately a fruitless undertaking. We have enough strength to stand up for ourselves and the interests of our friends and allies, the speaker stressed.

The goals which the Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries are pursuing in the international arena are absolutely clear and noble. We advocate lasting peace on earth, good relations among the peoples and the strictest respect for their rights to free, independent development. We want peace for ourselves, for our immediate neighbors and for all states.

In all the most important spheres the fraternal socialist countries act together and find in mutual support and the pooling of efforts a powerful, inexhaustible source of strength for resolving their national and internationalist tasks. The socialist community is, of course, free of the crisis upheavals inherent in the capitalist economy, but that does not mean that the socialist countries know no difficulties at all in their development. The facts are that mineral resources in nature are limited and, moreover, nonrenewable. In particular this applies to oil and some other types of energy sources. Prices for many types of raw material have increased markedly on the world market and the situation today is making particularly high demands on production as a whole which must have the most advanced technology and be structured to the highest scientific and technical standard.

The socialist countries have entered the eighties having won a position as the world's most dynamic economic force. We have grounds for counting on this position being reinforced. The bilateral programs for specialization and production sharing which the Soviet Union and our socialist friends are now adopting are geared to this. Our economic organs are also geared to this, working to coordinate national economic plans for the next 5-year plan period.

The long-term targeted cooperation programs adopted by CEMA in recent years cover all key spheres of physical production--energy, fuel and raw materials, machine building, the production of consumer goods and agricultural produce and transport. They provide for extensive joint action by the CEMA members in developing these very important elements of the economy.

K.V. Rusakov stressed that every success in communist building reinforces the Soviet policy of peace and this policy in turn creates a favorable external situation for implementing the creative plans of the Communist Party and the Soviet state.

In advancing to the election, the party is using Lenin's ideas to test the results of the work which has been done and our route toward the future. This is the reliable compass with whose guidance we have emerged at today's heights in communist building and will scale steep new peaks tomorrow. The ideas of communism and peace, Lenin's ideas are the pivot which determines the domestic and foreign policy of our party, its Central Committee and the Central Committee Politburo headed by that outstanding politician of the present day and continuer of Lenin's cause, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev.

In conclusion K.V. Rusakov expressed thanks once again for the high honor shown to him and assured the voters he would spare no effort to justify their trust.

K.V. Rusakov had a meeting with party, soviet and economic leaders and representatives of the labor collectives of Rostovskaya Oblast. During his conversation questions of the Don workers' fulfillment of the plans of the concluding year of the 5-year plan and the 5-year plan as a whole were broached and prospects for the further development of the oblast's national economy were examined.

Gorbachev Barnaul Speech

LD051527 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Feb 80 p 2 LD

[TASS report under the rubric "Working People's Election Meetings": "For the People's Happiness and Well-Being: Voters' Meeting With M.S. Gorbachev"]

[Text] The party's plans for further economic growth will be successfully fulfilled. Altay's working people are backing their confidence with action. Like all Soviet people, they are seeking to mark with high achievements the upcoming elections to the union and autonomous republic supreme soviets and local soviets.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, is running for RSFSR Supreme Soviet deputy for Barnaul's Tsentralnyy Electoral Okrug. The okrug's voters met with him there 31 January.

The meeting's participants included representatives of the main sectors of Altayskiy Kray's national economy.

An honorary presidium comprising the CPSU Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev was elected with great enthusiasm.

The kray's working people will insure absolute fulfillment of the targets for this year and the 5-year plan as a whole and will make a fitting contribution to implementing the historic decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress. This was stated by N.N. Maksacheva, first secretary of Tsentralnyy CPSU Raykom, who chaired the meeting; A.N. Pyankova, leader of a team of plasterers and painters in an Altayselstroy Administration mobile mechanized column; Ye.V. Shutkina, student at the Altay State University; F.F. Streltsov, laboratory chief at the Academician M.A. Kisavenko Siberian Horticulture Research Institute; G.V. Andiryenko, teacher at Barnaul's Higher Military Aviation School for Pilots imeni Chief Marshal of Aviation K.S. Vershinin; V.P. Shtaba, director of the Barnaulskiy Sovkhoz; and M.M. Sidorov, first secretary of Barnaul CPSU Gorkom.

The candidate's agent--A.V. Lunev, chief engineer at the Altayskiy units plant--familiarized the meeting participants with the candidate deputy's activity.

The meeting participants warmly greeted M.S. Gorbachev, who delivered a speech. He stressed that the Soviet people, rallied closely round the Communist Party, are preparing with great activeness for the elections to the union and autonomous republic supreme soviets and the local soviets of people's deputies.

The time since the previous elections is packed with events of tremendous political and historical importance. They have been years of active work by the party and people to fulfill the 25th CPSU Congress decisions, further develop the economy science and culture and raise Soviet people's living standards. The country has made confident headway in every avenue of social progress. They have been years of intense struggle for implementation of the peace program proclaimed by Lenin's party, for the relaxation of tension and for the consolidation of peace on earth.

As previously, the Communist Party is operating in the coming elections in a united bloc with nonparty people. This is a permanent factor in our political system that is proven by life and is a vivid expression of the Soviet state's true democratism.

In an atmosphere of great patriotic enthusiasm at their election meetings Soviet people have unanimously nominated as their first candidate deputy Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The party and the entire Soviet people know Comrade L.I. Brezhnev as a true continuer of the great Lenin's cause, an outstanding statesman and politician of our time and an ardent fighter for peace and friendship among the peoples and social progress on earth. In nominating Leonid Ilich Brezhnev as their candidate deputy our country's working people are expressing their complete approval of the Communist Party's domestic and foreign policy and its Central Committee's activity.

It is, the speaker said, with great satisfaction that I carry out Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's instructions to convey to Altayskiy Kray's working people his cordial greetings, great thanks for nominating him as a candidate deputy and his wishes for your new successes, good health and happiness.

These words were greeted with tumultuous, prolonged applause from the meeting's participants.

A wonderful feature of our time, the candidate deputy continued, is the mighty scope of nationwide socialist competition. Urban and rural working people are seeking to respond with specific deeds to the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1979) Plenum and the USSR Supreme Soviet session, to greet with new labor victories the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth and to fulfill and overfulfill the targets for 1980 and the 5-year plan as a whole.

Analyzing the results of the work that has been performed since the previous elections, the speaker cited cogent facts and figures testifying to Soviet people's major achievements in all sectors of communist building. A characteristic feature of the party's economic policy, he stressed, is the development of territorial production complexes, especially in the country's eastern regions.

It has long been a popular saying that Siberia is a storehouse of incalculable natural wealth. Stressing the necessity of extensively exploiting this wealth, V.I. Lenin wrote in his work "The Soviet Power's Next Tasks": "The exploitation of this natural wealth using the latest equipment will provide the basis for unprecedented progress in production forces." Following Lenin's behest, the party firmly pursues the course of the faster development there of the fuel industry, energy-intensive production processes in ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy and the chemical, petrochemical, pulp and paper and timber and wood processing industries.

Tremendous work has been done. Our country now obtains 50 percent of its oil, 33 percent of its gas and 20 percent of its coal from West Siberia's natural reserves. Speaking of Siberia and the Siberians, and their invaluable contribution to strengthening the country's economic might, the speaker noted scientists' fruitful work on opening up the natural wealth.

Comrade L.I, Brezhnev's trip round Siberia and the Far East was of tremendous importance for the new upsurge of the region's production forces. A number of important party and government resolutions connected with further developing industry, agriculture and science and improving the working people's cultural and everyday living conditions have been adopted on the basis of the trip's results. The implementation of the set tasks will make it possible to scale new heights in developing the economy of this vast region.

M.S. Gorbachev paid great attention to the questions of raising agricultural efficiency and dynamically developing all its sectors. As a result of the implementation in planned fashion of the party's agrarian policy, whose principled provisions were elaborated at the CPSU Central Committee March (1965) Plenum, this sector of the national economy is becoming increasingly developed and productive with every passing year. In recent years a great range of problems in the countryside's economic and social development have been solved and substantial quantitative and qualitative shifts have occurred. The power-worker ratio in agricultural labor increased 40 percent in the first 4 years of the 10th 5-Year Plan. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes received a large number of new tractors, trucks, grain-harvesting combines, machines for stockraising and fodder production and mineral fertilizers. The areas of irrigated and drained land increased considerably. Overall, almost R136 billion were channeled into developing agriculture--R27 billion more than in the previous 4 years.

Output is increasing steadily as spending on the sector increases. Over the years of the 10th 5-Year Plan average annual gross agricultural output has increased 9 percent, despite 1979--a year that was very hard in terms of weather conditions. During this period the average annual gross grain harvest has risen to 209 million tons--27 million tons more than the annual average in the 9th 5-Year Plan. The increase for the RSFSR is 13.1 million tons. The 5-year plan targets for raw cotton production and procurements have been successfully fulfilled throughout these years. More sugar beet and vegetables and more of certain other products have been produced.

Nor has stockraising marked time. Average annual meat production in the country increased 818,000 tons compared with the Ninth 5-Year Plan level, milk production increased 5.7 million tons and egg production increased 10.5 million, which has made it possible to increase consumption of foodstuffs.

However, the interests of further increasing the people's prosperity demand an increase in the pace at which farming and livestock raising are developing and the faster buildup of production, especially of meat. The CPSU Central Committee July (1978) Plenum comprehensively substantiated the party's line of transforming agriculture into a highly developed sector of the economy capable of reliably meeting the country's requirements for foodstuffs and agricultural raw materials and defined specific ways of achieving these goals.

The party and the state will continue consistently to implement the line of strengthening agriculture's material and technical base and developing all sectors of the agroindustrial complex. Work to implement the comprehensive program for boosting agriculture in the RSFSR Non-Chernozem Zone will be continued.

The main thing now, as Comrade L.I. Brezhnev stressed at the CPSU Central Committee November (1979) Plenum, is to improve the utilization of equipment, fertilizers, reclaimed land and all the economic and scientific and technical potential created in the countryside and to obtain a great return on investment so the strengthening of the sector's material and technical base has a more appreciable impact on increasing output and improving the country's foodstuff supplies.

The speaker went on to dwell on this year's top-priority tasks. Of all the questions, the work to increase grain and fodder production demands particularly great attention. The droughts and harvest shortfalls that recur periodically in particular rayons adversely affect agriculture's rate of development and retard the increase of production of livestock products. And so the tasks of improving farming stability and dynamically increasing the yield of all agricultural crops are coming to the fore. We everywhere have the reserves for this.

The extensive utilization of the achievements of science and leading practice has been and remains important for an available to all zones, under any conditions. In utilizing the available experience, a mass movement for high farming standards, high quality and the timely performance of all agricultural work must be organized everywhere.

It is possible to do much in this direction right now, when preparations are underway for the spring sowing. The CPSU Central Committee and Soviet Government adopted a special resolution on this question. Nothing must be omitted in implementing the planned measure. The training and placement of cadres, repair of equipment, preparation of seeds, supply of fuel, application of fertilizers, accumulation of moisture and fulfillment by industry of orders for the countryside--everything must be done in time so that we are ready and waiting for the spring and can lay a firm foundation for a high harvest.

Fodder production must be the object of party, soviet and agricultural organs' special concern. It is very important to pay more attention to increasing production and raising the quality of hay, silage and all coarse and succulent fodder, and strictly observing techniques for their procurement, storage and processing so as to create a reliable fodder base on every farm and in every rayon and oblast.

Real shifts in the production of vegetable protein must be insured as early as this year and people must see that the area sown with peas and other pulse crops is increased and fuller use is made of irrigated land, especially for cultivating alfalfa and soybeans.

The urgent tasks include carrying out the livestock wintering in an organized fashion. Broad socialist competition to increase production and procurements of livestock products in the winter period has now developed among stockraisers. Party committees must support these patriotic initiatives in every possible way and help workers on stockraising farmsteads to fulfill their plans and pledges.

Constant concern for stockraisers, skillful organization of their labor and production and the national, efficient utilization of all available fodder resources are the reliable guarantee of good results. In short, what is required is more active work to develop stockraising and the mobilization of all the reserves of kolkhozes and sovkhozes--and also the potential of the private plots of kolkhoz members, workers and employees and the subsidiary farms of industrial enterprises and other organizations--for raising and fattening livestock and poultry.

The 1980 results will be of great importance for fulfilling the tasks set by the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) and November (1979) plenums and creating the necessary groundwork for a successful start to the new 5-year plan. All this demands coordination and organization at all levels of the national economy, the increase of cadres' responsibility for the work entrusted to them and strict observance of party and state discipline.

The speaker went on to note the great contribution made by the working people of Altayskiy Kray, Gorno-Altayskay Autonomous Oblast and Barnaul's Tsentralnyy Rayon, which forms the electoral okrug, to strengthening the country's economic might. In the years since the last elections visible changes for the better have taken place in all sectors of the kray's national economy and working people's material and cultural standards have risen substantially. The volume of industrial production increased more than 18 percent over the first 4 years of the 5-year plan.

The candidate deputy named leading workers in socialist competition and noted the contribution of the kray's grain growers, who poured 3.46 million tons of grain into the homeland's granaries in the difficult year of 1979.

At the same time the speaker drew attention to the shortcomings and omissions that still exist, especially in questions of the use of physical, manpower and financial resources and the improvement of efficiency and quality. The elimination of existing shortcomings and fuller utilization of production reserves must be one of the main tasks of party, soviet and economic organs, trade union and Komsomol organizations and enterprise, kolkhoz and sovkhoz leaders.

The speaker also dwelled on questions of the CPSU's foreign policy activity and on the Soviet Union's struggle for disarmament and the consolidation of peace.

M.S. Gorbachev thanked the collectives that nominated him as candidate deputy and assured voters he would make every effort to justify their lofty trust.

In conclusion, the candidate deputy said: Soviet people view the future with optimism. The successes of CPSU domestic and foreign policy and all our socialist reality graphically reveal the socialist system's tremendous advantages and the humanism of the Soviet way of life and provide cogent evidence of the steady blossoming of the people's spiritual forces and the increase in their prosperity. Many warm words have been spoken at today's election meeting about the Communist Party and its Central Committee headed by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. This is evidence of Soviet people's lofty trust in our Leninist party and an expression of the inviolable unity of party and people.

During his stay in Altayskiy Kray M.S. Gorbachev visited industrial and agricultural enterprises, construction organizations and trade and consumer services establishments.

Conversations and exchanges of opinions took place with party, soviet and economic workers. There was discussion of questions of fulfilling the plans for the current year and 5-year plan as a whole and further improving organizational and political work to fulfill the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) and November (1979) plenums.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

LABOR-SAVING MEASURES DEAL WITH DROP IN LABOR FORCE GROWTH

LD051340 Moscow TASS in English 1212 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 5, TASS--The TASS commentator, Boris Prokhorov, writes:

Demographic statistics, which is an exact science, asserts that the increment of the labour force in the USSR in the decade ending 1990 for various objective reasons will be only four percent as against 18 percent in the period from 1971 to 1980. Such an outlook together with the task of constant expansion and development of the economy makes it imperative to strive ever more persistently for a rise in labour efficiency, to tap ever more reserves of saving labour and increasing efficiency of production.

The report of the Central Statistical Board on the results of the economy in 1979 shows that all this work is being done in the USSR. The statement cites figures which attest to the rise of labour efficiency in industry and construction and a resulting economy of labour of 1.4 million people last year.

One of the major ways of raising labour efficiency is a constant growth in the skill of workers. This is being achieved both through the training of young specialists in production-vocational schools and through the release of unskilled manual labour and a rise in their qualification. It is precisely in the latter that specialists see a big reserve of manpower.

Those regions of the USSR, where the shortage of manpower is particularly acute, set an example of raising the general level of mechanisation and automation of production, reducing the requirement of auxiliary workers. Labour-intensive industry is rapidly expanding in Krasnoyarsk Territory (Eastern Siberia) where only three million people live on a territory exceeding ten percent of the total Soviet territory. The number of highly skilled workers was increased there by 13 per cent in four years so as to safeguard manpower for building enterprises. This was possible thanks to the rapid advance of mechanisation and automation of production. In Krasnoyarsk alone, over 500 straight flow and automatic lines were placed into service in recent years. This made possible a big reduction in the number of unskilled workers.

The building Sayano-Shushenskoe hydroelectric power plant is to supply electricity to over 120 new industrial enterprises in the same Krasnoyarsk Territory. Bearing in mind the shortage of manpower, each of them will be built according to designs safeguarding a very high level of mechanisation and automation.

The state's solicitude for raising the technical level both of functioning and building enterprises makes for optimism as regards the future. The expected reduction in the increment of manpower will not catch the country unawares, because a well thought out programme of rational use of manpower is being implemented.

BRIEFS

CASPIAN OIL SEARCH--The search for oil at great depths under the Caspian has yielded its first results. A well situated under 84 meters of water gives a daily yield of 200 tons of oil. Oilmen are looking to sectors 100 to 150 meters under the sea and more. This is possible thanks to new technology: floating rigs, with the help of which the search for oil is going on off the coast of Azerbaijan, Turkmenia and Kazakhstan. For instance a Kaspmorneft semi-submersible rig can operate in sectors under 200 meters of water, even in rough conditions. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 28 Jan 80 LD]